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SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BIORHEOLOGY
CELEBRATION OF TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BIORHEOLOGY

PRESENTATION TO A.L. COPLEY
FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BIORHEOLOGY

Donald Elliott Brooks
President, Sixth International Congress of Biorheology

I noted earlier some of the similarities and differences this meeting shares with previous Congresses of Biorheology and pointed out the continuity provided by the contribution of a logo by Al Copley. As we all know, this generous gesture is only a tiny part of the contribution Al is continually making to our science. As the founder and a past president of the Society of Biorheology, as one of the Editors-in-chief of both the two official journals of the Society and most particularly as the prime mover and prevailing conscience of the biorheology community, Al Copley has been the single most important factor in the flowering of biorheology into the active field of endeavour we are seeing represented this week. For decades he has promoted our science through his scientific contributions, his biorheological presentations at meetings covering a broad spectrum of sciences, his editorial writing, his correspondence and his energetic personal dealings with a remarkably large segment of the scientific community. It is impossible to think of the development of biorheology without thinking immediately of Al Copley. Moreover, I think it unlikely that any other discipline owes as much for its development to any one individual as does ours.

The International Society of Biorheology formally recognized Al's contributions through the award of the Poiseuille Medal in 1972. However,

given the magnitude and impact of his continuing commitment to Biorheology we feel it appropriate to reiterate our appreciation of his efforts through the presentaion, on behalf of the Society, of a silkscreen print by a local west coast native artist.

As many of you are aware, Al Copley leads the double life of both a scientist and an internationally recognized artist represented in major collections around the world*. Giving Al a piece of art work therefore is something of a coals-to-Newcastle exercise. However, it might also be noted that the inhabitants of Newcastle definitely know their coal. It is in this spirit, then, that we make this presentation to Al Copley. The serigraph is titled "T-Silii-AA-Lis" or Raven Finned Killer Whale and is one of a series of five recently produced by Robert C. Davidson, a Haida artist and probably the most outstanding interpreter of the west coast native style now working. The piece uses the traditional formlines and fields of the ancient Haida designs but assembles them in a unique way to produce a work of singular freshness and power. In presenting it to Al Copley we hope it will serve both as a reminder of this Congress and as a symbol of the affectionate regard in which he is held by the members of the International Society of Biorheology.

*) under the name L. Alcopley



Congress President Don Brooks (center) and Society President Harry Goldsmith (right) honoring A.L. Copley (left) with a picture by Canadian Indian artist Robert Davidson at the Celebration of the 20. Anniversary of the Society. (Photo: Nancy Hamilton)