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ality Celebrity caricaturist Al threat Hirschfeld dies at age 99

By Polly Anderson THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Hirschfeld, whose graceful, fluid caricatures captured the essence of performers from Charlie Chaplin to Jerry Seinfeld, died Monday. He was 99.

Hirschfeld, who first had his drawings published in the 1920s and continued into the new century, died at his home, said his wife, Louise.

He claimed his creative process was somewhat of a mystery, even to himself.

'All I know is that when it works, I'm aware of it. But how it's accomplished, I don't know," he once said.

His drawings usually contained hidden tributes to his daughter, Nina. Just last month, The New York Times published a drawing by him of entertainer Tommy Tune, complete with the Hirschfeld hallmarks of fluid line, spiky cross-hatching, a graceful pose — and four Ninas.

Hirschfeld immortalized entertainers from Ethel Merman to the casts of the 2001 smash 'The Producers' and the 2002 revival of "Oklahoma!" He won a special Tony award in 1975.

'I try to capture the character of the play or the individual, rather than making a caricature for caricature's sake. Making a big nose bigger isn't Associated Press interview.

He collaborated with humorist S.J. Perelman on several projects, including "Westward Ha! Or, Around the World in 80 Cliches," a 1948 best-seller based on their travels on assignment for Holiday magazine. Less successful was their ill-fated attempt at a musical, "Sweet Bye and Bye," written with Ogden

Nash and Vernon Duke.; Among his published collections of drawings were "The World of Hirschfeld" and "The American Theatre as Seen by Hirschfeld." Hirschfeld was author as well as illustrator of the 1951 book, "Show Business

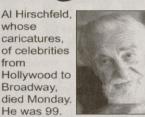
Is No Business. In 1991, he received a unique tribute from the Postal Service, which for the first time put an artist's name on a booklet of stamps and allowed hidden writing on a stamp — "NINA," of course.

But his works have graced museum walls as well as penny envelopes, and are in the permanent collections of several major institutions, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art, both in New York.

Albert Hirschfeld was born June 21, 1903, in St. Louis. The family later moved to New York, where Hirschfeld studied at the

Art Students League. In 1924, he left for Paris, and

whose caricatures. of celebrities from Hollywood to Broadway, died Monday.



Published: Collaboration with humorist S.J. Perelman on projects, such as "Westward Ha! Or, Around the World in 80 Cliches," a 1948 best-seller based on their travels on assignment for Holiday magazine Illustrated "Harlem," text by

William Saroyan, and "Treadmill

to Oblivion," text by Fred Allen.

SOURCE: Associated Press

spent a few years studying painting, drawing and sculpture there and in London. He gradually realized that drawing was what he liked to do best.

During a trip back in New York, a friend of his showed one of his sketches of an actor to someone the friend knew at the New York Herald Tribune. That led to assignments for that paper, and, a short time later, from the Times.

"I never take a day off," he once said. "When I would travel, I would always draw. I wouldn't know what else to do.

In addition to his widow, he is survived by daughter Nina

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Women lack heart disease treatment

By Michael Rubinkam THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A new study adds to the evidence that many women who suffer heart attacks are not getting adequate treatment.

The study found that doctors often fail to prescribe aspirin, beta blockers and cholesterol-lowering drugs to these women, even though the medications have been shown to prevent further heart attacks or other heart trouble

Other studies have shown that men and women alike are undertreated for heart disease, and women

are treated even less aggressively than men. 'Doctors in our society just aren't good with prevention efforts," said study co-author Dr. Michael Shlipak of the University of California at San

Shlipak said there could be a number of reasons

for the findings. There is a lingering myth that heart disease is primarily a man's disease, he said. Moreover, both doctors and patients fear the side effects of some preventive drugs, he said.

The study, in Tuesday's Annals of Internal Medicine, involved 2,763 postmenopausal women with heart disease. All had suffered heart attacks or chest pain caused by blocked arteries, or had undergone bypass surgery or angioplasty.

Researchers found that beta blockers, which slow the heart rate, were used by only a third of the women who should have been taking them.

Even aspirin was underused: Though all of the heart attack survivors in the study should have been taking it, only 80 percent did.

The research highlights "a terrible discrepancy between what we know and how we treat our sisters and mothers," Drs. Andrew Miller and Suzanne Oparil of the University of Alabama. a.Birmingham said in an accompanying editorial.

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