

## **Work of sculptor/painter John Buck entitled "A Month of Sundays" exhibited at the Mandeville Art Gallery**

**December 17, 1981**

The work of sculptor/painter John Buck will be presented in an exhibition titled "A Month of Sundays" opening January 9 in the Mandeville Art Gallery at the University of California, San Diego.

The exhibition, an installation of painted wood sculptures and drawings, will be on display through February 12. An opening reception for the artist will be held at the gallery from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, January 8. In addition, Buck will give an informal lecture about his work at 2 p.m. Friday, January 8, in the North Conference Room of the Student Center. Admission to the Gallery and to all events is free and the public is invited to attend. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Free parking is available Saturday and Sunday.

Among the sculpture included in this exhibition are Buck's most recent works. Their somber mood and starkly rendered subject matter can be attributed in part to a trip the artist made to Jerusalem last year. The Moslem Crescent, the Star of David, the Torah, and the Wailing Wall are among the elements Buck has combined with variously altered sculptures of the same nude, male figure. Tall and thin, modeled in wood in low relief, they are flat and symbolic forms of a man.

The stiffness and eccentricity of the figures is reminiscent of Early American sculpture and figure painting. Their execution appears simple and straight forward but the effect of each figure is at once humorous and philosophical.

Born in 1946, Buck received his B.A. from Kansas City Art Institute and School of Design in 1968, and his M.A. from the University of California at Davis. He currently teaches at Montana State University in Bozeman.

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