

"5 FROM L.A." exhibition of works by five Los Angeles artists to open

February 4, 1982

"5 FROM L.A.," an exhibition of works by five Los Angeles artists, will open Saturday, February 20, in the Mandeville Art Gallery at the University of California, San Diego.

The exhibition includes paintings by Mary Jones and Kiki MacInnis and installation works by Michael Kelley, Michael McMillen, and Jeffrey Vallance. An opening reception for the artists will be held at the gallery from 5 to 7 p.m., Friday, February 19. There will be a performance by Michael Kelley at 7:30 p.m. on the evening of the opening reception.

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.

Mary Jones' brightly hued paintings are large-scale architectural images which combine a static situation: the outline of a building, an arch, a stairway or a door - and a point of ominous motion such as a bolt of lightning, a tilting Grecian vase or a pair of hands in the dark.

Performance artist Michael Kelley's work will include drawings and an installation of objects from various performances. The subject of many of Kelley's past performances has been history, both personal and social, presented in a nonlinear and atmospheric manner: scattered, fast-paced and energetic.

"They reconstruct a synchronic past with fragments of specifics, like the names and monuments on the historied landscape," writes critic Howard Singerman. Kelley's performance on the 19th is entitled "Confusion."

Installation artist Michael McMillen most recently exhibited at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. He creates elaborate and mysterious environments and sculpture and makes extensive use of found objects as well as intentionally constructed ones. He will install a new work called "Nightscape" which he designed for the UC San Diego gallery.

Kiki MacInnis' recent paintings render the architecture and freeways of downtown Los Angeles' urban landscape in both a personal and factual way. Many of her paintings are non-figurative, boldly and successfully relying on, for example, the image of a pick-up truck speeding out from under an overpass or the deserted, unused area just below a busy freeway. Her depiction of these pathways reminds the viewer of their central position in the Southern California landscape.

Jeffrey Vallance's work will include two groups of paintings which he will install in the gallery incorporating wall drawings. His paintings of desert landscapes use drawing and collage, giving the effect of flat assemblages. Vallance will also exhibit his "War Machine," a view-box containing tabloid narratives about war. Colored lights dramatically change the atmosphere in each scene and highlight different objects.

The "5 FROM L.A." exhibit will be on display through March 14.

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