

Exhibition of enameling, an artistic pursuit, will be mounted at UCSD Central University Library

September 13, 1978

An exhibition of enameling, an artistic pursuit which attracts tens of thousands of practitioners throughout the world, will be mounted Friday, Sept. 22, through Friday, Oct. 20, in the main lobby of the University of California, San Diego Central University Library.

"There is a resurgence of interest in this art form," according to the exhibit's curator, La Jolla artist Kay Whitcomb, herself an internationally recognized enamelist.

Whitcomb, whose works have been shown in Japan, Italy, Belgium, Germany, France and the United States, explains that there are many techniques and approaches to the painstaking and dramatic art of enameling. Generally, enamel is a glass fired on specific metals at very high temperatures, as much as 1500 degrees Fahrenheit, for a few minutes at a time. Some enamels require as many as 20 firings.

One of the best-known techniques is cloisonne. Others include champleve, bass-taille, grisaille, limoges, electro-form, paillons, repousse and enamel-on-steel. Many of the techniques will be represented in the UC San Diego exhibition, along with historical pieces from other cultures and illustrations of procedures, processes, tools and materials.

Among the artists, in addition to Whitcomb, who will be showing their works are the following: Hiroaki Ohta and Keiichi Saito, Japan; Fay Rooke, Canada; Georges Magadoux, France; Maggie Howe, Mexico, and Americans Colette, Steven Zeitlin, Elizabeth Klim, Jack Boyd and --Emily Moser. About 20 enamelists have been invited to participate.

Central University Library hours through Sept. 25 are 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday. During the academic year, library hours are 8 a.m.- 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, and 2-10 p.m., Sunday.

For information contact: Barbara Ann Firger, 452-3120 OR David Jahn, Library, 452-3305

(September 13, 1978)