

UCSD's Mandeville Gallery to show selected works of Conrad Atkinson, May 1-Jun. 3

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Contact: Gerry McAllister, Mandeville Gallery, 534-2864 or Alixandra Williams, 534-3120

UCSD'S MANDEVILLE GALLERY TO SHOW SELECTED WORKS OF CONRAD ATKINSON

Conrad Atkinson, acknowledged as one of Britain's most important artists, for the past 20 years has incorporated his concerns about popular culture and the politics of the day into the art he creates.

Works by Atkinson will be on display from May 1 through June 13, in the Mandeville Gallery at the University of California, San Diego, in a show titled "Conrad Atkinson: Selected Works." The artist will be present at an opening reception at the gallery from 3-5 p.m., Saturday, May 1. This event is free and open to the public.

Atkinson also will give a lecture about his work at 4 p.m. Friday, April 30, in the UCSD Mandeville Recital Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

Atkinson is the creator of paintings, sculpture, prints and mixed media works that have been exhibited at, and are included in, major museum collections in England, Australia, Russia, the United States and throughout Western Europe.

In Britain, Atkinson's work has been displayed in trade union halls, subway stations, the sides of buses and a sports stadium.

Since the mid-1980s, Atkinson has used newspapers as the medium for his paintings and prints. He reworks the paper's front page or section front pages (such as the sport section) of famous newspapers, using traditional artists' mediums (oil, acrylic or ink), juxtaposing or interrelating the visual images and text to make his own commentary on contemporary culture, society, politics, sports and economics.

In 1988, the British national newspaper The Guardian commissioned Atkinson to create a special re-working of its front page, which was printed and incorporated into the November 19th issue. People who purchased that day's issue knowingly or unknowingly received a limited edition Conrad Atkinson print (the edition number was the circulation figure of that day's issue).

In a statement about his art, Atkinson has said, "I like my art accessible and public."

Atkinson was born in Cleator Moor, West Cumbria, England. He received degrees from the Carlisle College of Art, Liverpool College of Art and the Royal Academy Schools in London. He has received numerous awards and distinctions. In July 1992, he joined the faculty of the Department of Art at University of California, Davis, where he currently serves as chairperson.

This exhibition will be the second one-person show of Atkinson's art to be held on the West Coast. The artist is represented by Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York City.

The Mandeville Gallery is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m. It is closed on Mondays. Group visits are available weekday mornings by advance appointment. Admission is free. The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

Visitor parking on the UC San Diego campus is by permit. Permits may be purchased at the information pavilions on Gilman Drive or Northview Drive. For additional information call 534-2864.

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