

## **The University Art Gallery opens Nov. 4, 1965 with an exhibition of paintings by Bruce McCracken.**

**November 1, 1965**

An important new art gallery at the University of California, San Diego will open Thursday, November 4 with an exhibition of paintings and drawings by San Diego artist Bruce McCracken.

A reception will be held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday honoring the inauguration of Dr. John S. Galbraith as Chancellor of UCSD the next day. The reception, which is open to the public, will also honor the exhibition by Mr. McCracken and the opening of the new gallery.

The University Art Gallery is located in Building 353 in the Matthews Campus area east of Revelle College and U. S. Highway 101. It is under the direction of Robert Winsett who has served as University Artist at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and at UCSD for more than 11 years.

Building 353 served as a bowling alley for the United States Marine Corps when the Matthews Campus area was a rifle range. It has been completely reconditioned both inside and out with the main gallery hall being adapted for both canvases and sculpture. A false ceiling of narrowly spaced redwood boards covers the higher true ceiling which has been painted a dull flat black. An effective lighting system has been built into the ceiling which is easily adaptable for many different show arrangements.

The bowling alleys have been removed and the floor has been flattened and covered with brown wall-to-wall carpeting. An office-studio has been retained for Mr. Winsett adjacent to the main gallery room. A landscaped sculpture patio has been developed on the west-side of the gallery and a small reception and exhibition porch has been added to the east side.

According to Mr. Winsett, the gallery will bring in shows of major collections as well as exhibiting the works of contemporary artists.

"The gallery should prove to be a valuable addition to the cultural atmosphere of the campus and the San Diego community," he said. "It should serve as an inspiration as well as a showcase for the young artists who we hope will be studying at UCSD in the next few years."

Mr. McCracken was born in Buffalo in 1926 and attended the Albright Arts Academy there. He came to California in 1947 and settled in San Diego. He has been well known in California art circles for the past several years and many notable private collections include works by him.

His first showings were in several Southern California artists exhibitions at the Fine Arts Gallery in Balboa Park.