

Allan Kaprow to be Regent's Professor

April 16, 1968

Allan Kaprow, internationally known for his development of "happenings," will be a Regents' Professor at the University of California, San Diego during the first two weeks of May.

Kaprow will participate in "New Art Week," sponsored by the UCSD Departments of Music and Visual Arts, from Wednesday, May 8 through Wednesday, May 15. Culminating the week-long schedule of concerts and lectures will be a happening on Tuesday, May 14. Location and time will be announced at the seminars.

On Wednesday, May 8, Kaprow will lecture on "The Art-Life Game" at 8:00 p.m., room 2722, Undergraduate Sciences Building. The talk will be followed by two seminars, at 4:00, Friday, May 10 in room 3070, Undergraduate Sciences Building and at 4:00 p.m., Monday, May 13 in the same location.

Kaprow has defined a "happening" as "an assemblage of events performed or perceived in more than one time and place. Its material environments may be constructed, taken over directly from what is available, or altered slightly; just as its activities may be invented or commonplace. A Happening, unlike a stage play, may occur at a supermarket, driving along a highway, under a pile of rags, and in a friend's kitchen, either at once or sequentially. If sequentially, time may extend to more than a year. The Happening is performed according to plan but without rehearsal, audience or repetition. It is art but seems closer to life."

A graduate of New York University, with his masters degree in art history from Columbia University, Kaprow has a distinguished background as a teacher and an artist. He has taught at Rutgers University, Pratt University, State University of New York and the Institute of Contemporary Arts in Boston. He has had solo exhibits throughout the world, from New York's Guggenheim Museum to museums in Stockholm, Amsterdam and Hamburg.

During the early 1950's. Kaprow helped organize the Hansa Gallery in New York, an artists' cooperative gallery through which many of today's best known artists first came to attention. During this period Kaprow developed his first ideas about happenings. In the Reuben Gallery in New York during the late 1950's and 1960's, Kaprow was active in creating happenings along with such artists as Claes Oldenburg, Jim Dine and Robert Whitman. In 1967 Kaprow had a large retrospective at the Pasadena Museum at which time he astounded Los Angeles by constructing a sculpture of ice and instigating other short-lived but audacious activities.

From this beginning, happenings have spread throughout the world. Artists in areas as remote as Japan and South America have engaged in diverse but parallel activities.