

The Art World

Gallery Openings This Week

- Brian Wall**
Sculpture. Quay Gallery, 2 Jerome alley.
- Charles Simonds, James Davis**
Sculpture and paintings. James Willis Gallery, 109 Geary street.
- Paul Stack**
Drawings and paintings. Graphics Gallery, One Embarcadero Center.
- Maxine Stussy**
Sculpture. Zara Gallery, 551 Pacific avenue.

Continuing Museum Shows

- M. H. de Young**
Sculpture by Benjamin Serrano, paintings and tapestries by Danielle Gallois, through February 10.
Crafts by six 1972 Art Festival winners.
Contemporary Native American ceramics, through February 15.
- Legion of Honor**
Prints of the Italian Renaissance.
- Museum of Art**
World Print Competition, through January 6.
Sculpture by David Anderson.
Bay Area printmakers exhibition.
- Oakland Museum**
Art Division: New sculpture.
Daguerreotypes of 19th century California through January 27.
Cirrus edition prints.
- University Art Museum**
Eva Hesse: Memorial exhibition of sculptured drawings.

Continuing Gallery Shows

- Carl Bucher**
Phosphorescent vinyl environment. The Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon street.
- Charles Burchfield**
Watercolors and drawings. North Point, 872 North Point street.
- Joe Draeger**
Paintings. Hank Baum Gallery, One Embarcadero Center.
- Richard Estes**
Prints. Phoenix, 257 Grant Avenue.
- Collectors' Choice**
Photographs. Focus Gallery, 2146 Union street.
- Robert Mangold**
Paintings. Daniel Weinberg, 560 Sutter.
- Vincent Longo, Pamela Beede**
Prints. William Sawyer, 3045 Clay street.
- Julius Wasserstein**
Paintings. Rose Rabow, 2130 Leavenworth street.
- Cecil Beaton**
Photographs. John Berggruen, 228 Grant avenue.
- Eskimo Sculpture**
Lawson Gallery, 3235 Sacramento street.
- Robert Gonzales**
Malvina Miller Gallery, 3489 Sacramento street.
- Louis Siegrist**
Paintings. Triangle Gallery, 251 Post street.

David Abel To Perform On Sunday

David Abel will replace Gabriel Kobialka as the violinist on the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra programs, 8 p.m., Sunday at the Hillel Foundation, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, and 8 p.m. Monday at the Jewish Community Center, 100 California street.

Arrau Cancels Performance In Oakland

Pianist Jerome Rose, originally of San Francisco, will replace Claudio Arrau for the next subscription series of the Oakland Symphony, which opens at 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 15 in the Paramount Theater. Arrau has cancelled his current tour to undergo surgery.

Berkeley's Life Style

Impressive New Mural

By Thomas Albright

The Berkeley City Council Chamber, frequently the scene of acrimonious controversy, is now the site of an impressive new mural dedicated to the theme of co-existence and harmony.

The 12½ by 16 feet mural, which will be seen publicly for the first time when the council meets next Tuesday evening, is the work of the noted New York black artist, Romare Bearden.

It combines elements of photo-montage and abstract motifs painted in vivid colors to create a dynamic, tightly-knit composition that depicts the various facets of Berkeley's history and portrays the diversity of its people and life styles.

The project itself is the result of a remarkable cooperative effort among various Berkeley organizations and individuals, spearheaded by the civic art commission and coordinated by Carl Worth, director of the Berkeley Art Center.

The plan for a mural originated some two years ago, as part of a general renovation program for the venerable council chambers.

The choice of Bearden grew out of a one-man show of his work organized by the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1971 and later brought to the University Art Museum in Berkeley through the impetus of Raymond Saunders and Russell T. Gordon, artist-teachers at California State University in Hayward and members of the museum's committee for the acquisition of Afro-American art.

Following a formal presentation of the plan to the art commission by Worth, Saunders and Peter Selz, former director of the University museum, an \$8000 matching grant was received from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Berkeley Civic Arts Foundation, a fund-raising citizen's group, donated \$3250 and raised another \$2000 toward the project by public subscription. The remaining \$2750 was contributed by the city.

Bearden was then brought to Cal State, Hayward, for a brief visit as a seminar instructor, and during his stay was taken on an intensive, 10-day tour of Berkeley.

The scenes that he observed — from political rallies on Telegraph avenue to Buddhist worship services and teas in staid old homes up in the hills — served as the basis for a preliminary sketch which he later sent back from New York for the art commission's approval.

The final version of the mural — occupying eight canvas panels — was completed last month and shipped to Berkeley for installation on the wall above



ROMARE BEARDEN
A masterful job

the city council rostrum.

Bearden's characteristic style, which combines a narrative, figurative idiom with a formal simplification and fragmentation derived from cubism and a compositional scheme with roots in collage, lends itself well to expansion into mural scale.

From an expressive standpoint, the Berkeley mural lacks the richness and intensity of Bearden's familiar paintings based on scenes of ghetto life and other peculiar black themes, in part because of the neutrality of the screenprint medium

which dominates the composition.

He has, however, done a masterful job of gathering a multitude of diverse, fragmentary images and abstract shapes into a coherent visual statement within the more or less traditional convention of public art.

The mural is topped by a vivid view of San Francisco Bay on which an old sailing ship and a contemporary vessel symbolize the transition of past to present. The rest of the composition is a montage which interweaves images of people and build-

ings, historic and contemporary, into a structure of horizontal strata crossed by dynamic diagonals and further held together by flowing, looping curves.

The council chamber has been further enhanced with a display of recent paintings by such U.C. art faculty members as Boyd Allen, Felix Ruvulo, Erle Loran and Karl Kasten.

This is an idea that might profitably be emulated elsewhere, perhaps with a rotating show of purchase awards from the annual San Francisco Art Festivals, wherever these works may be.

Cantata Honors Dr. King

Merritt College presents Greg Dykes' rock cantata, "The Prince of Peace," as performed by the Cosumnes River Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Singers at 2 p.m. Sunday, January 13 at the St. Louis Bertrand Church, 1410 100th avenue in Oakland.

This program is in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday.

Organ Recital

Organist Stephen Lohrer from New Haven, Connecticut, will present works of Mendelssohn, Dupre and others in recital at 5 p.m. Sunday at Grace Cathedral.

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