

From Manteo to Murphy

North Carolina artists display their talents in 'Flashback: the 60s'

By **BILLY STOCKARD**
Staff Writer

Picture this: 22 artists from all across North Carolina gather together some of their best works from the 1960s and the 1980s for display here in Chapel Hill. That's what "The Art of the 60s/The Art of the 80s" is about and it's only a part of UNC's Fine Arts Festival this year. The theme of the festival is "Flashback: The 60s," and artists from Asheville to Wilmington have contributed to the project. Running since Feb. 24, the exhibition will continue through

April 2, with displays at the Student Union's Carolina Union Gallery and at the Horace Williams House on East Rosemary Street.

The mastermind of the 60s/80s concept is Lee Hansley, who was once curator of the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem and who currently graces the airwaves of WUNC radio here in Chapel Hill. Hansley said that he was approached by two students who encouraged him to become involved in the student-operated festival. Describing himself as "a relic of the 60s," he said

he knew about the artists both back then and now. Hansley wanted students to get a chance to see how the work of individual artists has progressed over time.

In that sense, Hansley said, the show is "somewhat historical." He energetically explained that the plans had originally called for the entire showcase to only cover a ten-day period, but that would have been a hassle.

"It would've been way too much work to run the show for only ten days. A normal exhibition runs for 4 to 6 weeks." Luckily, Hansley's ideas prevailed, so we can see the show through early April. The coordinator also suggested the Horace Williams House for the exhibition to get the festival "into the community. It had been too much of a campus thing before." But there were other problems that had to be considered.

"Ideally the show would consist of old work/new work, and so on. But there was no space to have them all together, so the show was divided. The 60s display is on campus; the 80s is at the Horace Williams House."

Hansley was quick to point out that this was not really a "thematic show. It's a hodgepodge of different styles." He also said artists "don't like to talk about messages" in their pieces. Usually what's there is there and is subject to individual taste.

And there is variety enough to suit anybody's taste at this festival. The artists come from as far away as the N. C. mountains to as near as UNC's own faculty. They include: Robert Barnard, Richard Kinnaird, Marvin Saltzman, and Dennis Zaborowski, of the UNC faculty; Robert Howard of Chapel Hill; McDonald Bane and Sue Moore, residents of Winston-Salem; Greensboro's Bert Carpenter; Andrew Martin, and Joan Gregory; S. Tucker Cooke of Asheville; E. C. Langford, who comes from Roanoke Rapids; Raleigh's Joe Cox, Mary Anne K. Jenkins, and George Bireline; Maud Gatewood, a resident of Yanceyville; Norman Keller



Poet Ron Bayes will read poetry Friday in Gerrard Hall

and Don Sexauer of Greenville; Anne Hill of New Hill; Edith London of Durham; Herb Jackson from Davidson; and Claude Howell of Wilmington. We talked to a handful of these people and learned some interesting things.

Dennis Zaborowski's 1960s contribution is "Sunshine's Shawl," an abstract which is related to a color-field-type paint. The acrylic design is made up of dark blue and striped elements. Zaborowski said the piece was "not referring to anything but itself." The artist created an exhibit that works well with color relationships, moods, and compositions. But he confessed that it was "basically visual";

pink dress splotted with blood. The painting was Saltzman's own reaction to the shooting; it was done the day of the the President's shooting.

The artist said the constant replaying of the event was "like a commercial, over and over again." Saltzman said he hoped his work would "make us a witness to Kennedy's death," even to the point where the viewer is participating in the violence. The artist completed the work in only ten minutes.

The recent piece is "Oxford Canal," an oil painting which used elements of the 60s paints, like the glyph (the use of an X). Saltzman painted it after a boat trip on the Oxford Canal. He paints nature in a way that is "not literal, but slight-specific." The artist said he hoped to bring about a feeling of spontaneity, as though it were just off the easel.

Joan Gregory of UNCG offers "Landslide" from 1968 and "Drawing the Line" from 1986. She said that both of her contributions were "abstractions of landscapes." She specifically mentioned that "Drawing the Line" was a collage, a piece of artwork made up of papers or cloth that are pasted together in some relationship that has symbolic meaning.

Another collage artist is E. C. Langford, whose pieces in the festival include "Charge Account" and "The Wall." This highly imaginative Roanoke Rapids native said that he gathered together "ledgers from country stores and books that were thrown away" and made them into unique statements of his surroundings.

"It's an individual thing," he explained. "I go around and explore everything. I don't try to take a theme and explore that . . . I let these (pieces) move like a dream. It's based on background, outlook, and intellect."

Langford certainly has a background worthy of respect. He has exhibited in galleries from New York to Florida and is, by his own proud admission, "the only North

Carolina artist who has been published in the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C." The artist even studied here at UNC, an experience that enabled him to explore his talent so it became as natural as "a duck in the water."

Mary Anne K. Jenkins has contributed her 1960s piece, "Perennial Forms," and her 1980s work, "A Shooting Star," the latter being based on a trip to Pompeii. Like Langford, she offered some philosophy: "The 60s works are simpler because we led simpler lives. Art reflects the way we live, and artists evolve — like writers — because they experience more and more."

Jenkins confessed that her later piece "looks newer" and "has less textural quality" than the older, but that "the imagery is still architectural." Like all the artists, she shows an enthusiasm and appreciation for expression through art.

These five individuals represent only a fraction of what is offered in the Fine Arts Festival. Many more artists and many more events are up and coming through March. These artists deserve recognition for their hard work and originality. All have been extremely helpful and all have made a lasting impression on the art world.



Eva Marie Saint spoke last week during the Fine Arts Festival

Movies, poetry and music to highlight Fine Arts Festival

By **LESLEY BARTLETT**
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"Flashback: The 60s," the student-run fine arts festival which began Feb. 23 and will run through March 5, has several activities planned for the final days. The festival will continue its schedule of excellent drama, art, movies and music.

Tonight, Ron Bayes will be reading poetry in Gerrard Hall beginning at 7 p.m. Bayes is currently a writer in residence at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg. His latest book of poetry, "A Beast In View," has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Bayes often juxtaposes grave sincerity with light-hearted comedy in his poetry.

Thursday evening, the New Potato Caboose will perform at the Art School in Carrboro. The band performs a repertoire that includes psychedelic rock, jazz and reggae.

Tomorrow night, Ron Bayes will lead a discussion of N.C.'s Black

Mountain School. The lecture/discussion will begin at 2:30 p.m. in Gerrard Hall.

From 9 to 12:30 p.m. Friday night, the band Indecision will perform in the Great Hall of the Student Union. Indecision mixes psychedelic and classic rock while performing vintage music from the 60s and original music.

On Saturday, The Connells will perform in Memorial Hall at 8 p.m. The Connells, who hail from Raleigh, combine folk, pop and psychedelic rock to achieve their distinctive sound.

On Sunday, the art films "Sam Francis" and "Jasper Johns: Decoy" will be shown at 4:30 p.m. in the Hanes Art Center Auditorium.

The festival will conclude with a talk by Clement Greenberg, a critic of 20th-century art. The talk will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Hanes Art Center Auditorium. A final reception for the entire festival will be held after Greenberg's appearance.



The Connells will perform in Memorial Hall Saturday night as part of the Arts Festival.