

PRESS RELEASE

John McCracken
New Sculpture
North Gallery
July 9 through August 30, 2003

L.A. Louver is pleased to announce the exhibition of five new wall sculptures by internationally renowned artist John McCracken.

Each sculpture is comprised of fiberglass and plywood, coated with resin and lacquer of an enigmatic hue -- red, green, blue, purple or black -- applied in multiple coats by hand brushing. The final clear coats are sprayed, then sanded and polished. These seductive, exquisitely beautiful sculptures appear energized by an internal force.

"The forms are roughly painting forms: rectangular, frontal, flat, "slab" forms (actually, plank-like forms) on the wall. Besides being sculptures made of painting, they are also to an extent sculptures of paintings. But they are mainly energized physical forms.

They are physical objects (sculptures) made of imaginative space (painting). By implication, they are objects made of idea. They suggest, straightforwardly, I believe, that matter is made of thought."

----- John McCracken

McCracken came to prominence in the 1960s, and for over forty years has explored and redefined the definition and parameters of Minimalism. Born in Berkeley in 1934, McCracken attended the California Collage of Art and Crafts. He taught widely during the 1960s and 70s, including UCLA, the School of Visual Art and Hunter College in New York, and the University of Nevada.

Exhibited widely throughout Europe and North America, McCracken's work may be found in numerous public and private collections. Museums include the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena; the Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum of American Art and Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago; Milwaukee Art Center and the San Francisco Museum of Art; the Palais de Beaux Art, Brussels and the Rijksmuseum Kroller-Muller, Otterlo, Netherlands.

Concurrent to this exhibition, L.A. Louver will show organic abstract paintings by Frederick Hammersley (second floor gallery) and recent sculpture by Brazilian Edgard de Souza, featured artist for the 2003 L.A. International Biennale Art Invitational (south gallery and skyroom).

For further information and visuals please contact Elizabeth East, telephone 310-822-4955; fax 310-821-7529; e-mail elizabeth@lalouver.com.