

Public Information Office
Bellingham WA 98225-9045
(360) 650-3350 ■ Fax (360) 650-6817

WESTERN GALLERY SHOWCASES FACULTY WORKS, OWN COLLECTIONS
Works on Paper by Foremost 20th Century Artists Make Public Debut January 5

Contact: Western Gallery, (360) 650-3963

September 2, 1998

BELLINGHAM – A rare look at its own collections of outstanding contemporary art – and an eclectic exhibit of works by the Western Washington University faculty – will be the focus of Western Gallery's 1998-99 season.

--Review/Preview: Faculty/Department of Art will open the gallery season

Wednesday, September 30 and run through Wednesday, November 18. Western art faculty members mix their media, methods and minds in an exhibit that represents concepts they have been pursuing in their own studios or exhibiting elsewhere in the country. These 16 artists offer a wide range of paintings, works on paper, sculpture, ceramics, photography, computer-generated art and design incorporating both familiar and innovative formats, techniques and subjects of contemporary art. Refusing categories, many works combine formats in a truly eclectic approach.

--Focus on Western Collections, Part I: *The Last Five Decades* – on view from Tuesday, January 5 through Wednesday, February 10 – marks the public debut of works on paper done in the '80s and '90s by many of America's foremost contemporary artists.

Included in the exhibit are names that personify 20th century art. Among them are works from the 1980s and '90s by Jennifer Bartlett, Francesco Clemente, Jasper Johns, Jacob Lawrence, Robert Motherwell, Judy Pfaff, Robert Rauschenberg, Susan Rothenberg, Kiyoski Saito, Frank Stella and Terry Winters. These works are from the Margaret and Richard Aiken collection that Margaret Aiken of Anacortes bequeathed to the Washington Art Consortium in October 1997.

In addition to the new acquisitions, works from the period 1945-75 acquired earlier by the consortium and housed at Western will be shown. Among renowned artists represented are Josef Albers, Willem de Kooning, Mark di Suvero and Donald Judd (both of whom have works in Western's Outdoor Sculpture Collection), Helen Frankenthaler, Agnes Martin, Claes Oldenburg, Mark Rothko and Andy Warhol. Rounding out the exhibit will be striking examples of 20th century design from Western's unique chair collection.

--more--