

L.A. Louver opens on contemporary scene

By Diana Rico

Daily News Art Writer

A major group show at the L.A. Louver Gallery in Venice gives us the opportunity to see contemporary work by important local artists in the context of what is being done internationally.

"American and European Painting, Drawing and Sculpture" features 38 works by 34 artists. This is the third year gallery co-director Peter Gould has organized this sort of summer exhibition.

"It is part of my ongoing interest in bringing to Los Angeles an international focus. We represent a lot of Los Angeles artists, and I'm trying to show that their work is part of an international forum," he says.

To this end, he has included works by such L.A. Louver regulars as David Hockney, William Brice, Charles Garabedian and Ed Moses — many of them new pieces that have not yet been seen publicly. Other artists included in the show are significant painters or sculptors, either from Europe or from other parts of this country, whose work has gained international stature but is not often seen in Los Angeles: George Baselitz, Rainer Fetting, Leon Kossoff and James Weeks.

The L.A. Louver exhibition also serves as a kind of preview to exhibitions coming up in the fall. Kossoff, Brice, William T. Wiley and several others represented here have solo shows scheduled in Los Angeles, New York or London in the next few months.

L.A. art aficionados will be pleased to see a new assemblage by Edward Kienholz, a relic from a past performance piece by Chris Burden, new paintings by Garabedian and by Richard Diebenkorn, and a piece from George Herms' "Rome Poem," an installation recently shown in Fullerton.

"American and European Painting, Drawing and Sculpture" remains up through Sept. 22. For further information, call (213) 822-4955.

Black artists' registry: The California Afro-American Museum in Exposition Park has announced plans to start an artists' registry that will serve as a vehicle to establish an accurate list of black artists in California. The registry will be

used to assist in the selection of artists for museum lectures, workshops and non-exhibition programming.

"We often get inquiries from various institutions asking for Afro-American fine artists as well as performing artists," says Nancy McKinney, the museum's program coordinator. "Once we've established the registry, we will be in a position to assist those institutions in reaching the artists."

In addition to being a resource bank, the registry will be used by the museum to disseminate art-related information to participating artists. Special lectures, seminars and other programming will be developed as a result of the responses from the registry participants.

Artists interested in being listed on the registry should address inquiries to the attention of Tonya Durrell, California Afro-American Museum, 600 State Drive, Los Angeles, Calif. 90037, or call (213) 744-7432.

Art courses: You can visit the studios of established and emerging artists as well as galleries and art museums as a participant in "Contemporary Art and Artists," a 10-week course offered by the USC College of Continuing Education this fall.

The class, which begins Sept. 15, is designed for artists, art students, teachers, collectors and others seeking to deepen their understanding of the contemporary fine art world in Los Angeles. Attendants will visit such galleries as Jan Baum, L.A. Louver and Neil Ovsey, as well as the experimental Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art and Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions. The fee for the course is \$150.

Those interested in a wider range of arts might want to check out "L.A. Arts: a Cultural Guide to Los Angeles," another USC course. Incorporating films, slides, field trips and guest lectures, this 12-week class meets on Mondays beginning Sept. 13.

Participants will explore the major museums, the Huntington and the Getty — as well as art deco buildings, the funky arts in the wax museums and Forest Lawn Cemetery, people's art at the Rose Bowl Parade, the Doo-



George Segal's "Woman Seated on a Chair" is part of the L.A. Louver's "American and European Painting, Drawing and Sculpture."

Da Parade, Watts Towers and Grandma Prisbey's Bottle Village, the punk rock scene, the movie industry and the theater world. The course fee is \$125.

For further information about either program, call (213) 743-4560, extension 500.

Masks extended: "Masks in Motion," the popular Olympic Arts Festival exhibition at the Craft and Folk Art Museum in Los Angeles, has been extended to run through Sept. 16. The show originally was scheduled to close in August.

"Masks in Motion" consists of representative masks from many of the countries that participated in the 1984 Summer Games. More than half of the 300 masks in the show were provided by participating governments. For further information, call (213) 937-5544.