

## ART PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Bertram Newhouse**, chairman of the board of Newhouse Galleries, died at the age of 99 in New York City.

**Alice Baber**, painter known for her lyrically abstract work, died of cancer at the age of 54 in New York City.

**Ida Applebroog** has an exhibition at the Ron Feldman Fine Arts gallery in SoHo called "Current Events."

**Henry Geldzahler**, New York City's Commissioner of Cultural Affairs, has resigned his position as of 15 December. He is expected to write books and do consulting.

**Antonio Muntadas** presented four video works and a tour/performance "Media Sites/Media Monuments" at WPA on 18 October.

**Richard Lerner**, director of the Lerner-Heller Gallery in New York City, died recently at the age of 53.

**Salvador Dali** has recently been sued by a former secretary for \$360,000, when Dali seized some 60 drawings and paintings from a French exhibition of Dali's works owned by Mr. Moore on the ground that the works were counterfeit. Mr. Moore maintained that the works were signed by Dali who, Mr. Moore asserted, had the habit of putting his name to works done for him by others.

**Ben Nicholson**, who died 6 February at the age of 87, left \$3.56 million in his estate, the bulk of which went to his family.

**H. W. Janson**, known throughout the world for his "History of Art" as well as for his reputation as a professor of the history of art at New York University, died in October on a train between Milan and Zurich at the age of 68.

**Arman** has recently installed a new high-tech art work, a "tower-statue" which is more than 50 feet high holding 60 separate automobiles in 1,500 tons of concrete at the Contemporary Art Center south of Paris.

**Niki de Saint Phalle** has been touring, giving interviews promoting a perfume in a deep blue glass bottle with a gold cap on which two snakes, one gold and one brilliantly spotted, are intertwined and face each other.

**Ted De Grazia**, whose pastel paintings of cherubic Indian children commanded as much as \$30,000 each and were reproduced on everything from postcards to paperweights, died of cancer in Tucson at the age of 73.

**Robert C. Morgan** has had a show of Marks and Traces: Drawings and Photnotations, 1972-1982 at the University of Texas at the Permian Basin in Odessa.

**Don Boyd** recently appeared in a group show of South Dakota Experimental Artists at 55 Mercer St. in New York City.

**Arakawa, Arman, Christo, Rimma Gerlovin, Juan Gonzalez, Lucio Pozzi and Paul Rotterdam** were some of the U.S. Artist-Immigrants showing selected new works in Mexico City in July and August.

**Tommy Mew** showed Selected Works on Paper at Sewanee Alternative Space at the University of the South in October.

**Barbara Nissman**, American pianist, this summer lowered a 9-foot concert grand on a barge in the Prinsengracht canal in Amsterdam where she was to perform the first classical music concert ever played in an Amsterdam canal. But the piano dropped and demolished a car, scaring a nearby herring vendor so badly that he fell into the water. The show, however, went on because the piano was retuned and held the audience of more than 5,000 captive.

**Wolf Vostell** recently celebrated his 50th birthday at Malpartida de Caceres in Spain, with a large group of friends.

**Andy Warhol** is becoming a robot, thanks to the mechanical clone which is being built by AVG Productions Inc. of Valencia, California at the projected cost of \$400,000. The sophisticated robot will fulfill a lifelong ambition of the artist, who reportedly once said, "I want to be a machine." The head can make 17 different movements, even capturing Warhol's little neck tilt and nod. When completed, recordings of Warhol's voice will be synchronized with the machine's 54 separate movements ranging from a subtle twitch of the lip to a pensive folding of the arms.

### ART ANIMALS IN THE NEWS

**Man Ray**, the handsome gray-haired Weimaraner owned by William Wegman, died last March at the age of 11 of natural causes. Man Ray was featured in man of Wegman's videotapes as well as his photographs. Renowned for quiet dignity and true effectiveness as a model, Man Ray appeared with his companion, Wegman, on talk shows, *Saturday Night Live*, and some 20 x 24 photos done by Polaroid, which will be featured in a large-format book published by Abrams this fall called *Man's Best Friend*.

**Tatti Wattles**, the rat, was 2½ years old and died of a heart attack at home. Famous throughout the Los Angeles art community, Tatti had participated in three performances by Rachel Rosenthal. He had toured in Canada, was seen at openings around town, had hosted events at Espace DBD, and was mascot to Rosenthal's workshops and classes. Rachel acquired him from artist Kim Jones during the "Public Spirit" performance festival in May 1980. Tatti escaped the fate of laboratory rats and became a person. Rosenthal plans to write a Tatti Wattles book, designed to draw public attention to the experimental rat, that much maligned and ignored creature, and, by extension, to all animals exploited by man.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!