

# ART PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**John Cage** was prevented from premiering *Europas 1 & 2* in Frankfurt when fire destroyed that city's *Staedtische Schau-buehne*, set by an arsonist. The fire began on the opera stage and demolished most of the company's current sets and costumes.

**Bruno Bernard**, veteran Hollywood portraitist whose fame became known because of his photo of Marilyn Monroe with her windblown dress swirling about her shapely legs, died at 75.

**John Bernard Myers**, an art dealer and writer who presented and published the work of many well-known New York artists and poets, died of cancer at the age of 67. Some of the artists he promoted were Larry Rivers, Grace Hartigan, Helen Frankenthaler, Red Grooms, Alfred Leslie and Fairfield Porter, as well as writers John Ashbery, Kenneth Koch, and the late Frank O'Hara.

**Jacob Kaplan**, philanthropist and founder of the J.M. Kaplan Fund, which helped artists, composers, Westbeth artists' housing, non-profit bookstores, and much more, died at 95.

**Christopher Wilmarth**, sculptor and artist, died by suicide in New York at the age of 44.

**Carl Andre**, 52-year-old sculptor, has been indicted a third time on a murder charge in his wife's 1985 death, after two previous indictments were dismissed. He pleaded not guilty and was released on \$100,000 bail.

**Xavier Fourcade**, dealer in contemporary art for Willem de Kooning, Joan Mitchell, Malcolm Morley, Michael Heizer, Walter de Maria, Dorothea Rockburne, Tony Berlant, Magdalena Abakanowicz, as well as the estates of Barnett Newman, Arshile Gorky, Tony Smith, Eva Hesse and H.C. Westermann, died in New York at the age of 60.

**Romare Bearden, Dr. Armand Hammer, Sydney and Frances Lewis, Isamu Noguchi** were among the winners of the National Medal of Arts, awarded by President Reagan in June.

**Christo** will spend \$8 million to cover land in Japan and California with 1,500 huge umbrellas. Hoping to display these umbrellas in 1990, he will feature the 18-foot-high and 24-foot-in-diameter umbrellas on each side of the Pacific. They will stand for three weeks before being dismantled. In California, yellow umbrellas will stretch 16 miles between the inland towns of Gorman and Wheeler Ridge, 60 miles north of Los Angeles. In Japan, blue umbrellas the same size would cover 12 miles of a forested valley in Ibaraki prefecture, or state, north of Mito City and in Hitachi City, about 70 miles north of Tokyo.

**Andy Warhol's** \$15 million estate will be used to establish a foundation "for the advancement of the visual arts." Just after his death, a 1963 painting, "White Car Crashing 19 Times" brought in more than \$600,000, the highest price ever for a work by Warhol.

**André Masson**, one of the last great exponents of surrealism, died in Paris at the age of 91.

**Jean Hélion**, a pioneer of the abstractionist school of painting, died in Paris at 83.

**Victor Ganz**, vice president of the Whitney Museum of American Art and an internationally known collector of modern art, died at 74.

**Jake Zeitlin**, friend and confidant to many of the great American authors of this century and inveterate bibliophile, friend of Aldous Huxley, D. H. Lawrence, William Faulkner, Edward Weston and others, died at 84 in Los Angeles.

**Slater Barron**, Long Beach, California lint artist, was featured in *Time Magazine* for 1 June 1987 with a full-page feature under "American Scene."

**Brian Buczak**, an artist who worked in assemblage, film, slides, performance, books and publications, sculpture, architecture, and writing, as well as his primary dedication to painting, died on 4 July just one month and a half before his 33rd birthday.

As a memorial to Buczak, an exhibition of "Books, Paintings, Signs, and Ephemera" was mounted in Barbara Moore's space in New York City. From Buddha's tooth, to the laws of physics, to the American flag, Buczak investigated symbols from many sources. He compared and contrasted everything, joked about the sacred, exalted the banal, all with incredible energy. The struggle for meaning transcended the actual answer. The search embraced chance and the accidental. By appropriating and juxtaposing images from various times and cultures, he made the past become significant to the present: what is dead acquires life.

In one of his last statements about his work, Buczak says: "The paintings tend to depict memory rather than vision. My subjects appear to me in sleep and the work is painted in a deep trance in total darkness." The catalog for the exhibit has texts by Barbara Moore, Clive Phillpot, and Dr. Thomas Kellein, Curator at the Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart, West Germany. For information about the book, *The Search for Accidental Significance/for Brian Buczak*, write to Barbara Moore, 325 Spring St., New York, NY 10013. The book has pages by Louise Bourgeois, George Brecht, Philip Corner, Alison Knowles and Lawrence Weiner (\$25 publication price, \$35 thereafter).

**Rimma Gerlovina and Valery Gerlovin** join with Mark Berg-hash in an exhibition, "Photems: A Collaboration" which is in New York at the Marcuse Pfeifer Gallery from 20 November through 19 December.

**Jan Henderikse** had an exhibition entitled "Trapegevels van Delft" at the Kunst Centrum Delft from 5 June - 11 July. He also read from his book, *Jan Henderikse in New York*.

**Georgia O'Keeffe's** estate has been settled with the formation of the Georgia O'Keeffe Foundation in Abiquiu, New Mexico whereby many of her paintings will be distributed to museums. In addition, Juan Hamilton, the artist's longtime companion, will receive 24 paintings, a photograph by Stieglitz, the Ghost Ranch and writings and papers of O'Keeffe.