

NEWS RELEASE--Color Blend Print Exhibition

The First National Invitational Color Blend Print Exhibition will be displayed by the University Museums from September 1 to 30 on its two year tour across the country. Dr. Tom Dewey, II, Assistant Professor of Art, Ole Miss, has planned and arranged the show with Mr. Bernard Solomon of the Georgia Southern Art Department. Forty prints by 23 artist-printmakers were selected from more than 160 works using color blend printing techniques.

Although the art of printmaking has been in existence since late medieval times, an interest in experimentation with techniques in the various print mediums has prevailed primarily since WW II. The Color Blend show is the first time the exploration of the techniques of color blend printing (also known as split color roll, or rainbow roll) has been documented. Dr. Dewey has stated "I think it is important as the first attempt to document the color blend phenomenon, and that young artists, especially, will be impressed and influenced. Furthermore, exhibitions acknowledging the importance of technique in art are rare, which makes this one noteworthy for that reason alone. Yet, viewers not intimately familiar with the technical explosion as an absorbing concern for artists may nevertheless also be delighted by the presentation of fantasy, myth, metaphysics, ~~the~~ intuition and spontaneity and other highly personal visual statements -- all through or with, of course, color blend technology." A catalog is being published and will accompany the show after December 1978.

Dr. Dewey, as president of the Southern Graphics Council, has been instrumental in the establishment of a prints and drawings study collection at the University Museums by the Council. University Museums will be the

repository of works on paper by southern artists from the 1930s to the present and the collection will be strengthened by the availability of archival and reference material on the artists and their works, as well as on the history of printmaking in general.

"Similar print study collections can be found around the country," said Valerie Braybrooke, Director of the University Museums,"but this will be the first one in the southern states devoted especially to works by southern artists. The collection will preserve selected works from which we will be able to put together future shows that will circulate nationally. The study collection will also be available at the University Museums for researchers."

Some of the prints have been done in editions that enable purchase of original work. A reproduction of one of the prints as a poster will be on sale at the Museums.