

ARTPEOPLE

Robert Mallery, a junk artist who contributed to the blossoming of American sculpture in the late 1950's and early 60's, and was also a pioneer in the use of plastics and computers in art, died in February at the age of 69 of leukemia. He was one of the first artists to write about hazards in the arts, due to his use of polyester resin, which gave him liver problems in the 1960s.

Nathan Lerner, a photographer, designer and teacher, died at 83 in Chicago in February. He was renowned for his innovations in photography techniques, from documentary photography to semi-abstract Constructivist images involving luminous projections, solarization, photograms and other methods. He also is remembered as discovering and helping to preserve the art of Henry Darger, one of this century's great outsider artists, whose work was recently on exhibit in New York.

Ed Wilson, a sculptor and art teacher, died in November of congestive heart failure at the age of 71. Known for his great teaching skills at SUNY Binghamton and his public commissions, Ed Wilson was a black artist who created sculpture that gave life to public spaces, including a memorial to John F. Kennedy and a piece titled "Falling Man."

Sally Ganz, an art collector and benefactor of educational and cultural organizations, died in January at the age of 85 in Manhattan. With her husband, Victor W. Ganz, Mrs. Ganz accumulated works by Picasso, Johns Hesse, Rauschenberg, Stella and other artists whom the couple championed and befriended. She was a great benefactor of the Whitney Museum of American Art as was her husband.

Lawrence Fleischman, philanthropist and art collector who last year gave the bulk of his private collection of ancient Greek, Roman and Etruscan antiquities to the J. Paul Getty Museum, died in January at the age of 72. A partner in the Kennedy Galleries, having sold his collection of American art when he took over the Kennedy Galleries, he and his wife began amassing a large collection of Greek, Roman and Etruscan art.

Francesco Buranelli is the new Director General of the Monuments, Museums and Pontifical Galleries of the Vatican, replacing Carlo Pietrangeli, who died in 1995. He will oversee the completion of the Sistine Chapel restoration and to prepare the way for the year 2000, which the Church celebrates as the state of Christianity's third millennium. He is an archeologist and curator of Etruscan art.

Leon Polk Smith, a painter famed for his American geometric abstraction, died in December at the age of 91. He gave a collection of 27 paintings and works on paper to the Brooklyn Museum in 1992, where they are

on permanent display. A full-scale retrospective of his work was organized by that museum in 1995.

Douglas Gordon, 30, the Glasgow-based installation artist won the 1996 Turner Prize, worth \$32,000 to a contemporary British artist. This is the first time a video artist has received the prize, as well as the first winner to live outside London.

Harry Callahan, photographer; **Vera List**, arts patron; **Maurice Sendak**, author, illustrator and designer won the 1996 National Medals of Honor in the visual art category.

Peter Cain, a painter whose images of disturbingly truncated cars contributed to the revival of realism among younger artists, died in Greenwich Village at the age of 37 of a cerebral hemorrhage. First seen in the Daniel Weinberg Gallery in Santa Monica in 1990, he followed that with exhibitions in New York City.

Victor Vasarely, whose strong geometric designs and use of optical illusions made him a master of Op Art, died at 90 in Paris. His death from prostate cancer coincided with the financial and legal woes of his Vasarely Foundation, which was scheduled to be dissolved at the end of March.

Arnold L. Lehman, 52, has been named the new director of the Brooklyn Museum of Art, after a 6 month search.

Martin Kippenberger, 43, versatile painter and sculptor who was considered one of Germany's "bad boy artists", who worked in almost every medium—drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, collages and books, as well as installation and performance pieces—died of liver cancer in Vienna in March.

George Montgomery, poet, photographer and museum curator and director, died on 7 April in Manhattan at the age of 73. He worked with the Poet's Theater in New York City, designed posters for Paul Taylor and his dance company, was an active member of the Abstract Expressionist artists, writers and filmmakers who met regularly at the Cedar Tavern in Greenwich Village. He had been curator for the Museum of Modern Art, a director of the Museum of American Folk Art and the Asia House Gallery.

Dorothy Norman, a photographer, writer, editor, arts patron and advocate for social change, died in April at the age of 92. Married to the son of the founder of Sears Roebuck, she settled in New York City, where she became a researcher at the American Civil Liberties Union, was involved with the early Planned Parenthood Association, and also was known for her close relationship with Alfred Stieglitz, the photographer and advocate of American modernism, whom she met in 1927 when she wandered into his art gallery, the

Intimate Gallery on Park Avenue in Manhattan. He became her lover and mentor, and she became the subject of many of his photographs and a crucial force in his third and final gallery, An American Place, which he opened in 1932 with her encouragement and money she raised from family and friends.

Agnes Denes of New York City has won the annual Rome Prize Competition at the American Academy in Rome for 1997-98. Other winners are **Charles Ledray** of New York City and **Douglas Argue** of Minneapolis.

Juan Ramon Masoliver, an art critic and essayist who was a pioneer of Catalonia's Surrealist movement, died in April at the age of 87 of a heart attack. He helped found the Surrealist magazine *Helix* in 1929 in Barcelona with Salvador Dali and Luis Bunuel. He spent much of the 1930's in Paris, where he befriended James Joyce and later was a personal secretary to Ezra Pound. He was the author of "Presentation of James Joyce" in 1981.

After the Spanish Civil War, Masoliver returned to Spain and worked briefly as a propagandist for Franco. He then began writing for a variety of newspapers, primarily Barcelona's *Vanguardia*, where he worked for more than 60 years.

Theodore Stamos, famed Greek painter, died in February of lung cancer. He was considered one of the first early adherents of the Abstract Expressionists, known for his paintings in which brushstrokes form muted fields of abstract colors. He was 74.

Ida Kohlmeyer died in New Orleans in March at the age of 84. She had developed an extensive style of hieroglyphs which she used in her work throughout her long career.

Victor Vasarely succumbed to prostate cancer in March at the age of 90. Best known for his strong geometric designs and optical illusions, he designed everything from champagne bottles to university buildings.

Paul Cummings, a curator, publisher and authority on American drawings and prints, died in February at the age of 64. He was formerly director of oral history project of the Archives of American Art, conducting interviews with nearly 250 artists, patrons, collectors and dealers. From 1975 - 1987, he was adjunct curator of drawings at the Whitney Museum of American Art. In 1969, he founded the *Print Collector's Newsletter*, now called *On Paper*. In 1979, he founded a second journal, *Drawing*, which he edited until 1995. At the time of his death, he was working on a biography and catalog raisonné of the artist Mark Tobey.

Harry Duncan, the famous hand printer of books who published Robert Lowell, William Carlos Williams Wallace Stevens, Marianne Moore, Tennessee Williams and Yvor Winters, died at the age of 80 in Omaha.

Ben Raeburn, owner of Horizon Press, who published the complete works of Frank Lloyd Wright, and many other famed authors, died at 86 in Menlo Park, California.. Known especially for stunning book design, Horizon Press was Ben Raeburn.

Catalunian artist **Joan Rabascall**, resident of Paris, opened the first exhibition of the virtual gallery on the Internet sponsored by FNAC. Included are international exchanges Rabascall has had with the entertaining collection of small television sets coming from the whole world. Find it at

<http://www.fnac.fr>

Leslie George Katz, founder of Eakins Press and a writer on art and literature, died on 18 April of cancer. He was 78. From writing for Classic Comics to writing speeches for Adlai Stevenson, he became the publisher of *Arts* magazine in the 1950s and was a longtime member of the board of the Yaddo artists' colony in Saratoga Springs, NY. He helped MOMA acquire the collection of photographs of Atget. The Press founded in 1966 published 56 books on American photographers, sculptors and poets and on the New York City Ballet. The press was named after Thomas Eakins, one of Mr. Katz's heroes, and subsidized by money from a sale of paintings by Eakins that his father had accumulated secretly, scattering the collection throughout Baltimore. The paintings were eventually entrusted to Mr. Katz, who sold them to the collector Joseph Hirshhorn and thus began the Eakins Press.

Una E. Johnson, who built the print collection of the Brooklyn Museum of Art into one of the country's largest and best, died at the age of 91 in Manhattan. Curator until 1969 and named Curator Emeritus of the museum in 1973, she established the annual National Print Exhibition at the Museum. She wrote countless books and catalogs, including a monograph about the French art dealer Ambroise Vollard, which was first published by Wittenborn & Schultz in 1944 and was later republished by the Museum of Modern Art in 1977.

Sverre Fehn, 72-year-old architect who lives and works in Oslo, Norway has been named the 1997 Laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize. The award will be \$100,000 to be presented on 31 May in Bilbao, Spain.

Alan Gussow, an artist and conservationist, died at the age of 65. He was instrumental in convincing the National Park Service to have artists in residence in parks.

Sydney Freedberg, an art historian who taught at Harvard for nearly 3 decades and was chief curator of the National Gallery in Washington, died in Washington in May at the age of 82. He was the author of many books such as those on Parmigianino, Andrea del Sarto and Painting in Italy.

art reader

The *New York Times Living Arts* section for 21 February 1997 included a conversation with Susan Rothenberg and Bruce Nauman *At the Met With*. Illuminating.

afterimage for March/April 1997 features Photo Backdrops and Cultural Expression with articles by Arjun Appadurai, Lucy Lippard, and Avon Neal, among others.

The Small Press and Future Literacy by Susan Smith Nash in the December - January issue of **Washington Review**, P.O. Box 50132, Washington, DC 20091.

eye no. 9 has an article on Chain Letters and Pyramid Schemes and warnings how not to get scammed; Internet Censorship and how to fight back; Underground News that covers hip music, zines, books, projects and web sites, etc. . Available from 301 S. Elm St., Suite 405, Greensboro, NC 27401-2636. \$9.95 for four issues.

European Photography no. 60 (Fall/Winter 1996) includes portfolios of a number of photographers, as well as book reviews from all over the world, as well as news of Russia's Photofest and other bits and pieces. Beautifully produced, this journal comes out twice a year and costs \$40.00 or DM60. Available through D.A.P.

kulturchronik (News and Views from the Federal Republic of Germany)no. 6 for 1996 features a profile of Walther König, bookdealer and publisher; Jochen Gerz's *Le Monument de Biron*; a discussion of the book versus electronic media, among others. Available from Inter Nationes, Kennedyallee 91-103, D-53175 Bonn, Germany.

New Yorker for 17 March 1997 has a review of Alberto Manguel's *A History of Reading* (Viking, \$26.95) by George Steiner, and this essay is a marvelous promotion for the book and for the reader.

On Paper for March - April 1997 (vol. 1, no. 4) features an interview with Vik Muniz, an article about Joe Brainard: *All Possible Colors* by Nathan Kernan, the *Artist Book Beat* by Nancy Princenthal and much more. Available from 39 E. 78th St., New York, NY 10131-0440.

F5 Update is a review of **Factsheet 5**, edited by R. Seth Friedman in *Small Press Review*, April 1997.

Substance, a review of theory and literary criticism has a special issue: **Metamorphoses of the Book**, guest edited by Renée Riese Hubert as Number 82. Included is a photograph of Buzz Spector's installation, *Double Reading*; *The End of the Reign of the Book* by Roger Chartier; *Artificial Reading* by Pierre Lévy; *Playing it by the Book* by Warren Motte who takes the threatened condition of the book from a literary point of view; *Hypertext Hotel Lautréamont* by Joseph Tabbi, emphasizing how critical theory has contributed a large part to hypertext; Henry Rapoport deals with the problem of transformation in his "Text in a Box" in which he discusses several boxes by Joseph Cornell, Max Ernst's *Maximiliana*, and a video by Steve Fagin; the Huberts discuss the Book, the Museum, and Public Art, dealing with the shifting audience of the artist's book and discussing Susan E King, Margot Lovejoy and Jochen Gerz. Johanna Drucker and Margot Lovejoy, both artists and critics discuss the impact of electronic technology on the artist's book. As a result, Lovejoy demonstrates a greater hope for the electronic media which she has been using and speaks as an artist. Drucker instead insists on the transference of much of the book vocabulary to the electronic media. And then there is Paul Zelevansky who discusses how many of the boundaries between books, magazines and sound art have crossed over and how cultural concerns have shifted. With sampling, the fragment taking the upper hand, Zelevansky counsels us to pay attention. Zelevansky plays with typography as he discusses legibility, fragmentation, stimulation, entropy and much more. A delicious issue from Journal Division, University of Wisconsin Press, 114 No. Murray St., Madison, WI 53715 for \$8.00.

JAB7 (Journal of Artists' Books) for Spring 1997 has an interview with Clif Meador, a remarkable critique of John Eric Broadus: *A Fashioner of Books* by Renée and Judd Hubert, book reviews, a history of Feminism and the Book Arts at the Woman's Building in Los Angeles, a review of *Science Imagined* at the Berkeley Center in the autumn. Important issue from JAB, 324 Yale Ave., New Haven, CT 06515.

