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"Roland Ginzel, A Retrospective 1941-1984: Paintings, Prints, Drawings, Press Drawings" will be on display at Gallery 400 at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) February 19 through March 22.

The exhibition will feature over 35 works by leading abstract painter Roland Ginzel, a member of the UIC faculty from 1954 until his retirement in 1983.

The Gallery 400 retrospective will feature Ginzel's expressionistic drawings and paintings of the 50's; the abstract paintings that became his signature; prints; press drawings, as well as recent paintings described as "active fields of color and brush work."

On Wednesday, February 19 at 4 p.m., Chicago art critic Dennis Adrian will present a lecture on Ginzel and his work in room 3290 of Alumni Hall, 400 S. Peoria. An opening reception for the show will follow at 5 p.m. in the gallery.

According to Laurel Bradley, director of Gallery 400, Ginzel's 1950's drawings and paintings, "highlight expressionistic draftsmanship and occasionally bear affinities in palette and subject matter with Leon Golub's humanistic works of the same decade. In the 1960's, his large, colorful canvases explore a progressive range of problems including the juxtaposition of hard-edged color forms with free-floating painterly planes, systematic stenciling and surrealism crossed with abstraction. Ginzel, who is also a consummate draftsman and printmaker, uses his 'pressed paper' pieces to extend his compositional vocabulary of floating planes into the medium of hand-made paper collage."

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Ginzel's active exhibition record dates back to the 1950's. One of his first shows was the "Chicago and Vicinity" exhibit at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1956. In 1976 he was one of 14 artists featured in the Museum of Contemporary Art show "Abstract Art in Chicago." Ginzel's works on paper and canvas have been showcased in international exhibitions including the 1975 Whitney Biennial and the artist's paintings, drawings and prints can be found in major museums as well as in corporate and private collections.

"Roland Ginzel, A Retrospective" will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue featuring an essay by Gallery 400 director Laurel Bradley and a short "Appreciation" by Dan Ramirez, associate professor of art at UIC.

Sponsored by the Illinois Arts Council and the UIC Student Activities Funding Committee, this exhibit will coincide with a presentation of Ginzel's work at Dart Gallery, 212 W. Superior.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Gallery 400 is located in Alumni Hall, 400 S. Peoria, and viewing hours are 12-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and by appointment. For more information call 996-6114.

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