MIGUEL BARCELO

Paintings 1983-1985


Currents, with Mimmo Paladino, Robert Ryman and Alexis Smith.

Institute of Contemporary Art, through April 20.

BY MICHAEL BOS

I t seems that the fiftieth anniversary of the Institute of Contemporary Art has bolstered its ambition, for it now has three shows at a time.

The Dazzle presentation is distinctive in perspective. Focusing on the ICA's 1949 exhibition American Painting in Our Century, it looks back at the debate which accompanied the rise of Modern Art in America — a debate conducted on platforms as diverse as Museum pamphlets, the pages of Life and the floor of the Senate.

In the late forties, American society at large faced a choice between Isolationism or global engagement. At the same time, the American art scene saw the emergence of Abstract Expressionism, widely perceived as the heir to the European Modern tradition and a signal from the indigenous figurative styles. Whether the old looks back at the debate which accompanied the rise of Modern Art in America — a debate conducted on platforms as diverse as Museum pamphlets, the pages of Life and the floor of the Senate.

The pendulum has since swung in opposite direction. The pendulum has completed another full swing, things which were considered backward in the forties have become fashionable again, and the loocons of modernity that are thought to find themselves in forced retreat.

The place of honor in the current show is accorded to Spanish painter Miguel Barcelo, whose huge canvasses fill the entire ground floor. Barcelo is a prominent member of a new generation of Spanish artists who, after the end of the Franco regime, have quickly caught up with artistic developments elsewhere — in particular with the New Expressionism blossoming in continental Europe.

Barcelo's technique is well-adapted to his subject matter, which also includes Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, Symphony No. 17 and Adagio for flute and orchestra. It was the Academy that launched the Tech Performing Arts Series a year ago. Last year we sold 230 tickets, this time we only have 150 to sell, so it's first come, first served! Sanders Theatre, tonight at 8 pm. MIT price: $8.

CANTATA SINGERS

Bach and Webern cantatas

The Cantata Singers will perform cantatas by Bach and Webern, including Bach's Cantata BWV 60, O Ewigkeit, du Donnerwort, BWV 93, Wer nur den lieben Gott liest, Meister BWV 229 Komm, Jesu, Komm, and Webern's Cantata No.1, op. 29. Sanders Theatre, March 5, 8 pm. MIT price: $4.

VIENNA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Entremont plays Mozart

Philippe Entremont will be simultaneously soloist and conductor in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 14 in a program which also includes Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings and Eder's Piece de Concert.

Symphony Hall, March 7, 8pm. MIT price: $6.

Tickets will be sold by the Technology Community Association W20-450 in the Student Center. As opening hours are currently a bit sporadic, please call before you come. If nobody is in, please leave your order and your phone number on the TCA answering machine at 253-4885. You will be called back as soon as possible.

The Tech Performing Arts Series, a service for the entire MIT community from The Tech, MIT's student newspaper in conjunction with the Technology Community Association, MIT's student community service organization.

Get Out on the Town with The Tech Performing Arts Series.


ANNIE FISCHER

Piano recital

Annie Fischer will play Beethoven's Sonata in E flat, Liszt's Sonatas in B minor and Schumann's Kreisleriana.

Symphony Hall, March 9, 3 pm. MIT price: $6.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE

Saint Joan

The Huntington Theatre Company will perform Bernard Shaw's touching and comic telling of the Saint Joan story. Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Mar. 11 and 18 at 8 pm. MIT price: $6.

SINFONOVA

Vivaldi's Four Seasons

In our recent "The Year in Review," The Tech named Sinfonova's Oct. 16 all-Mozart concert "Chamber Concert of the Year." Conductor Aran Gharabekian is one of the region's most sensitive interpreters of music, and has proved he has something fresh to say about even the most familiar of works. Sinfonova's performance of Vivaldi's Four Seasons with Stephanie Chase, solo violin, is therefore likely to be a very exciting event. Also on offer in this Gala Concert will be the World Premiere of McKinley's Sinfonious and Tippett's Fantasia Concertante on a theme of Corelli.

Jordan Hall, March 14 at 8 pm. MIT price: $7.

The Tech Performing Arts Series presents...