

Catch these shows while you still can

By Harriet Swift
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It's not just the openings that make the art scene so busy around the bay; it's keeping up with the closings.

Not a few art-seekers avoid the opening event, opening day, opening

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week and hit the shows during the quiet moments of midweek or at least mid-run. The problem with this otherwise excellent strategy is that time tends to run out faster than our leisure time to visit the show.

Here's a roundup of current visual exhibits to keep in mind; remember to circle those closing dates in your Day Timer.

■ Ceramicist Nancy Selvin's elegant new installation, "Looking Through Glass," is one of the easiest shows to schedule because it's open 24 hours a day. Selvin, who has been devoting her

considerable energies to the Pro Arts organization over the last couple of years, has gotten back into her work in a big way by exhibiting in Berkeley's Addison Street Windows, the department store-like space across from Berkeley Repertory Theater.

Selvin has used the enormous space with restraint and intelligence, painting out most of the windows (they're 10 feet high and cover 60 feet of uninterrupted glass) to frame eight carefully

composed settings.

"Through The Viewer Art Enters The External World" is her message, each word framed in its own window-within-a-window, yet all the words linked together by the repeated elements of framing, paint, words. Selvin has used gold leaf, text, signage and a palate of compelling colors for her windows. Unlike a number of artists who have worked in the windows, Selvin doesn't seem to have been over-

whelmed by the huge space nor had the compulsion to whittle it down.

"Looking Through Glass" will be on display until March 15. The Addison Street Windows are at 2020 Addison, between Shattuck and Milvia. Open seven days a week, 24 hours a day, no charge, courtesy of the Berkeley Civic Arts Commission.

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