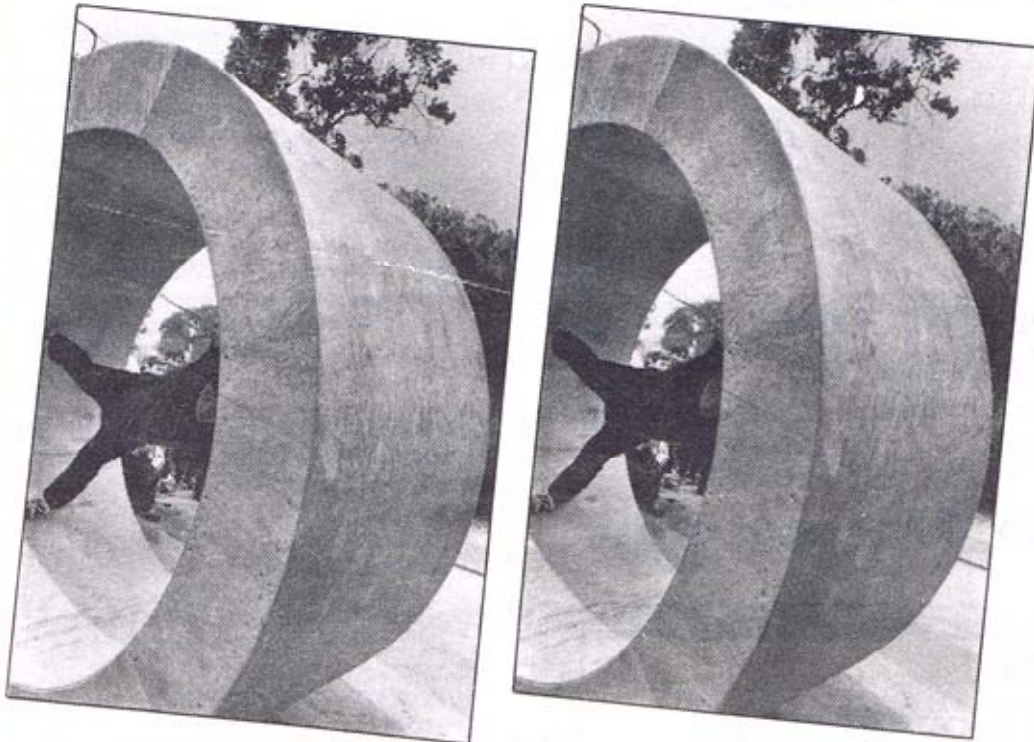


Delgado, Mike. "Pick of the Week." *L.A. Weekly*, 1-7 July 1983, p. 113.

Pick Of The Week



Chris Burden's "The Hard Push" at Rosamund Felsen Gallery.

Perhaps because the art world is in so many ways tied to academia or because lighter fare is somewhat more palatable in warmer weather, numerous group exhibitions seem to blossom in the summer months. Two current exhibitions offer fine examples of the better work of several excellent artists. The "Black and White Show" ponders the role which the values black and white have held in various stages of recent contemporary art history. In a typically angular juxtaposition of rectangular panels, **Ellsworth Kelly** demonstrates that black and white are in fact colors that squeeze from a tube just like blue, red and yellow. To **Richard Serra**, a black panel fitted strategically in a corner operates as the absence of light so that perspective is manipulated into a quadratic void. An inverted letter "Q" in various stages of deflation is glazed in graphic-black in a clever ceramic by pop king **Claes Oldenburg**. **Myron Stout** similarly plays off the inherent graphic qualities of black and white, but **Robert Moskowitz** and **Susan Rothenberg** use the same two elements for more powerful emotive ends, as does **Linda Benglis** (although her piece is not exactly black and white). **Jill Giegrich** works somewhere in between with a rather academic figure drawing.

The "Summer Group Show" at Rosamund Felsen Gallery is just that, but it is perhaps more interesting, because here one finds a segment of Los Angeles art history in shorthand. This footnote ranges from the syntactical, cooler photographic investigations of **Leland Rice** and **Grant Muntford**, and the important performance work of **Chris Burden**, prominent in the '70s, to the more overtly political and cynically caustic work of **Mike Kelley** and **Jeffery Vallance**, and the more historically conscious abstractions of **Peter Lodato** and **Karen Carson**. Both shows are certainly worth missing a day at the beach. At Margo Leavin Gallery and Rosamund Felsen Gallery.

—Mike Delgado