

# Nancy Gotthart, California Artist

## August 23, 1979:

*The work of Li Lida is a unique expression in terms of western abstract art. It is rooted in the spiritual discipline of Chinese calligraphy and the rigorous pursuit of physical action exemplified by the martial art of Taijiquan. The explosiveness, sensitivity and control over the medium of paint is a distillation of this background. Lida brings a new eye to western painting and new meaning to the term abstraction. His recent studies in life drawing and painting are informed with the specific meaning of the Chinese ideogram as it transforms and infuses the multivalent image of work in the west today. It appeals to the eye with a freshness and clarity of form and space, and to an immediacy of the mind. The paint as a tactile, physical presence is an excitement rendered by discipline and sensitivity.*

N. E. Gotthart      August 23, 1979

*Li Lida's one-man shows include the following:*

*The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, England; Tokyo National Museum, Japan; Museo Nazionale d'Arte Orientale, Rome, Italy; Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities, Stockholm, Sweden; The Asia Foundation, San Francisco; the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco; Philadelphia Art Alliance; Santa Barbara Museum of Art; Denver Art Museum; Milwaukee Public Museum; Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts; The Art Museum, Jacksonville, Florida; and others. A show is scheduled for April 1980 at the Houston Museum School of Art.*