

# SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE

November/December

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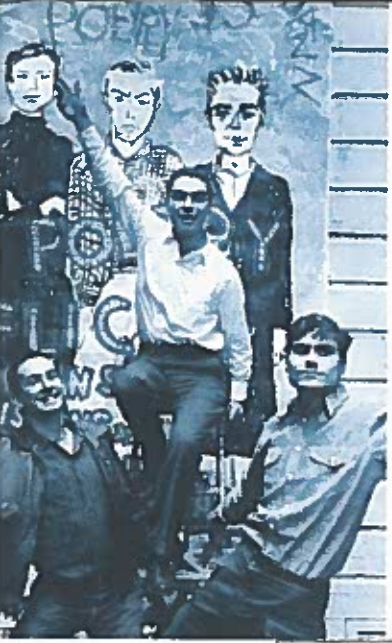




# Beat Culture


AND THE NEW AMERICA:

1950-1965



DURING THE COLD WAR, IN THE AFTERMATH OF WORLD WAR II, A NEW GENERATION EMERGED IN AMERICA, KNOWN AS THE BEAT GENERATION. "Disillusioned with the progress of science and western technocracy, the Beats embarked on a quest for a new set of values out of which a new faith, a new tribal ethic was born," says Lisa Phillips, curator of *Beat Culture and The New America: 1950-1965*, a major travelling exhibition opening at the Whitney Museum of American Art on November 9. "Although once rejected by mainstream society as outlaws, rebels and morally dangerous, today the Beats are recognized as icons of America's counterculture and as one of the most influential cultural movements of the century."

"*Beat Culture and the New America: 1950-1965* will look at the Beat movement in all its complexities—through the many cross currents, rich exchanges and collaborations between poets, visual artists, musicians and filmmakers at work on both coasts during this period of intense creative ferment. By defining 'Beat' as a broad cultural movement it becomes evident that the Beat spirit and sensibility extends well beyond the now legendary literary accomplishments, permeating many forms of artistic expression, touching and transforming American artistic life. In their subversive non-conformity, reversal of commonly held assumptions, emphasis on process and performance over object, exuberance for life and spiritual search, the Beats broke new ground that we often take for granted. They continue to inspire younger generations of artists today with their directness, courage and intensity of vision."



The exhibition, which features many San Francisco Art Institute alumni, faculty and associates, will include paintings, sculpture, installation, film, performance, original manuscripts, book jacket design and documentary photographs by Bruce Conner, Wally Hedrick, Robert Rauschenberg, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, Jack Kerouac, Michael McClure, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Gregory Corso, Larry Jordan, Jay DeFeo (see page 3), and Wallace Berman among many others.

*Beat Culture and the New America: 1950-1965* opens at the Whitney Museum of American Art on November 9, 1996 and will travel to the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, MN and to The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco's M.H. de Young Memorial Museum.

SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE ALUMNI  
AND FACULTY INCLUDED IN  
**BEAT CULTURE AND THE NEW AMERICA:**  
1950-1965

**Bruce Baillie** studied 1969-71, MFA'71

**James Broughton** taught 1969-70 & 73

**Joan Brown** studied 1955-56 and taught 1961-68

**Jerry Buchard** taught 1968 - present

**Bruce Conner** taught 1966-68

**Jay DeFeo** taught 1965-70

**Lawrence Ferlinghetti** taught 1978

**Robert Frank** taught 1971

**Wally Hedrick** studied 1952-55, BFA'55  
and taught 1958-68

**Jess (Collins)** studied 1949-51

**Larry Jordan** taught 1969 - present

**Ed Kienholz** lectured 1994

**Phillip Lamantia** taught 1979

**Alfred Leslie** taught 1964

**Fred Martin** studied 1949-50, taught 1958-75, 77 - present,  
Director of College 1965-75, Dean 1983 - 1992

**Kenneth Rexroth** taught 1962-65

**Jack Spicer** taught 1954-55

Top: Larry Jordan, 4 Beat Poets, (left to right) Michael McClure, Phillip Lamantia, John Weiners, David Meltzer, 1957, SF

Above: Larry Jordan, Poetry is Jazz, (left to right) Michael McClure, Phillip Lamantia, Larry Jordan, 1957, SF

Right: William S. Burroughs and Brion Gysin, Untitled (W.R. Hearst, Jr.), from The Third Mind, 1965-70. Courtesy of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.