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The Art Scene

Simultaneous solo shows

TWO solo exhibitions of new paintings by Pacita Abad, are currently ongoing, at Ayala Museum, Makati ave. until Feb. 28, and at Luz Gallery, Loocsin building, cor. of Ayala and Makati ave. until Feb. 21.

For the past five years, Pacita Abad has been based in Washington, D.C., a city known for its international and cultural diversity. During this period she was extremely active in both the local and international art scene. She represented the Philip-

pines at the following international exhibitions: "La Bienal de la Habana" in Cuba in 1986; UNESCO's 40 Years with a traveling show in fifteen museums in Europe and Asia in 1987; Olympiad of Art in conjunction with the 24th Olympics in Seoul, Korea in 1988; and the International Art Show for the End of World Hunger exhibited in Europe in 1988-89.

Pacita has had several solo shows in Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., and New York and has participated in

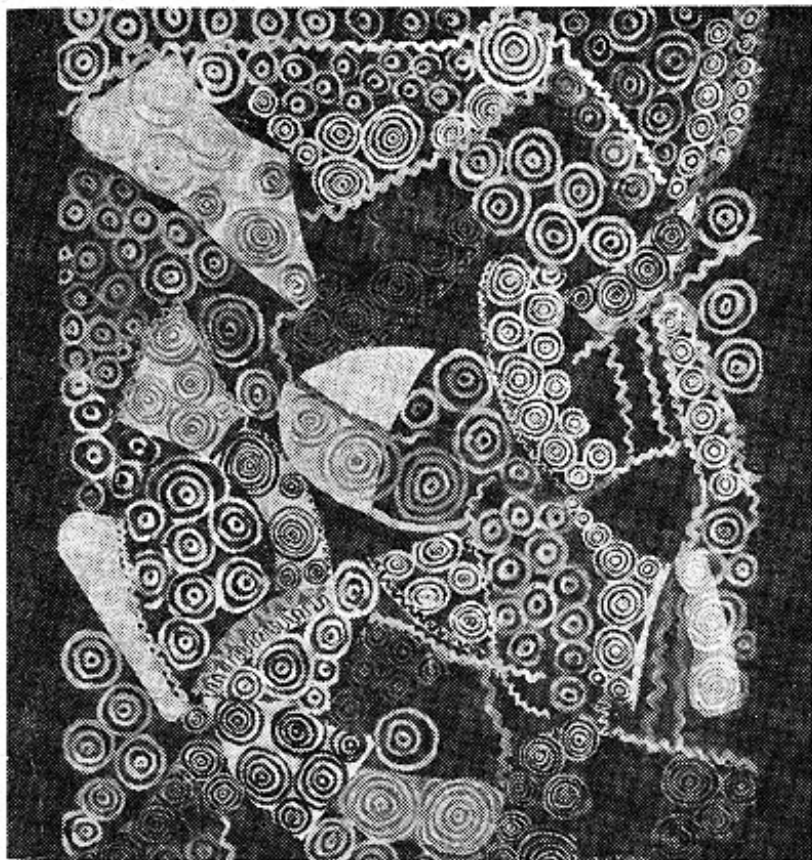
numerous invitational juried shows in the United States. In recent years, she received awards for distinguished achievement from the National Endowment for the Arts as a visual arts fellow for 1990; the District of Columbia Commission on the Arts and Humanities as visual arts grantee for 1989 and 1990; the New York State Council on the Arts as a visiting artist; and most recently, Pacita won the MetroArt Award over 200 artists to install a mural at the Metro Center subway station in Washington, D.C.

These Manila exhibitions will feature a collection of more than fifty small trapunto paintings, a technique which she has continuously developed, as well as numerous works on paper in which Pacita has made assemblages using a wide variety of materials like buttons, tiny mirrors, glass, gold threads, shells, beads, embroidery and fabrics. She paints, silk-screens, cuts, glues and sews objects to her work in order to emphasize certain shapes and forms. When these objects and materials are sewn to the canvas, textures can be felt as well as seen and the painting becomes animated.

The exhibits, open to the public, will be viewed at Ayala Tuesdays through Sundays from 10-6 p.m. and at Luz Gallery Mondays through Saturdays from 10-6 p.m.

In a quote from her review written for Pacita's 1989 Franz Bader Gallery (Washington, D.C.) show, Shirley Koller writes: "The natural exuberance flowing from Pacita Abad as she speaks about herself and her artwork can also be felt emanating from the colorful, luxurious canvases she produces."

Pacita, a 1984 TOYM Awardee, had her last one person show in 1990 at both the Philippine Center in New York and at the Astraca Gallery in Washington, D.C.



TRUMPÒ, an acrylic and oil painting by Pacita Abad