

Lewis & Clark **NEWS** Community College

5800 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, IL 62035-2466

PHONE 618-468-7000 or IL 800-642-1794 FAX 618-468-3208 WEB www.lc.edu

For More Information Contact:

Lori Artis, Director of Public Relations and Marketing, 618-468-3220 or lartis@lc.edu

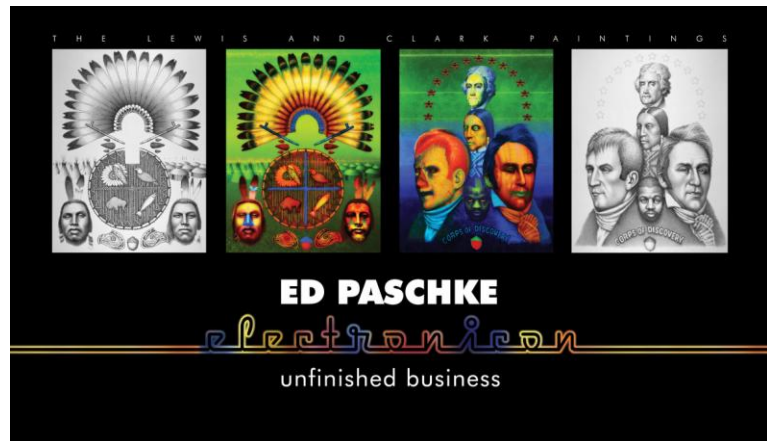
Kent Scheffel, Associate Vice President Community Services, 618-468-3200 or kscheffe@lc.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 14, 2007

COLLEGE TO FEATURE ART EXHIBIT OF RENOWNED ARTIST ED PASCHKE

GODFREY – Lewis and Clark Community College will play host to an exclusive art exhibit featuring the works of the late Ed Paschke. The exhibit will be located in the Trimpe Building, Multi-Media Center (Room 141), and will be open to the public beginning Sept. 23-Oct. 30. Hours for the exhibit are from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 1-6 p.m. on Sundays.



The exhibit will feature 40 works by Paschke, some of which have seldom or never been exhibited in the past.

Prior to Paschke's unexpected death on Thanksgiving Day 2004, he had been commissioned by the College to develop two murals, his largest work ever, intended to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. The artwork had not been finished prior to his death. The exhibit will display the unfinished artwork as well as other artists' interpretation of how Paschke intended for the paintings to look when complete.

"It was important for Lewis and Clark Community College to curate an exhibition of Ed Paschke's work and for our community to celebrate our relationship with him," L&C President Dale Chapman said. "The unfinished commissioned work he was producing about the Lewis and Clark expedition had an enormous impact on the College. It is an important part of who we are."

The Lewis and Clark show "Electron Icon: Unfinished Business" is a powerful collection of Paschke's work that includes iconic, neon, present day and nature paintings, drawings and sculpture.

“We owe a great debt to those who have allowed their paintings to be displayed for this show including Marc Paschke of the Ed Paschke Foundation, Rosemary and Dennis Wisnosky, Rhett Kilpatrick and Reese Horton, Ellen Sandor, Thomas Robertello Galleries and Arnold Gottlieb,” Chapman said. “This is a rare opportunity for the St. Louis region and people throughout Illinois to see many of Ed’s works which have not been on exhibit for more than 20 years.”

L&C Art, History and Culture Professor and Curator of the exhibit Jim Price said the exhibition centers around the theme of the unfinished commissioned work. The two murals were left unfinished as a result of Paschke’s death. This show came into being as a result of that moment.

“The reality of this exhibition is that it is also unfinished,” Price said. “Not unfinished in the sense that it is incomplete or inadequate – quite the contrary. It is unfinished in the sense that there is a legacy and story that continues. It is unfinished because all of us involved in this project continue to learn and comprehend things that Ed Paschke’s art communicated. These unfinished paintings serve as the centerpiece of this exhibition in a literal and metaphoric sense. They are Ed’s last project, but they were not his last conversation with us. We hope that this exhibition will allow you a glimpse into the complexity of the conversation Ed Paschke was having with us all.”

Ed Paschke (1939 - 2004) was born and spent most of his life in Chicago. His childhood interest in animation and cartoons led him toward a career in art. As a student at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago he was influenced by many artists featured in the Museum's special exhibitions, in particular the work of Gauguin, Picasso and Seurat.

Although Paschke was inclined toward representational imagery, he learned to paint based on the principles of abstraction and expressionism. Paschke received his bachelor of fine arts degree in 1961, and later his master of fine arts degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1970.

Between his graduate and undergraduate work Paschke traveled and worked a variety of jobs amassing the experiences that would shape his artistic style. During a brief period in New York, he was exposed to Pop Art philosophy and began to incorporate elements of this style borrowing images directly from the print media and other elements of popular culture.

Themes of violence, aggression, and physical incongruity prevail in his work of this period. Returning to Chicago in 1968 he exhibited with other artists whose work, like Paschke's, shared references to non-Western and surrealist art, appropriated images from popular culture and employed brilliant color throughout a busy and carefully worked surface. Known collectively as the Imagists, their work attracted attention both regionally and nationally.

For more information about Ed Paschke, including the Lewis and Clark Colorization Project of Paschke’s unfinished work, visit the Paschke Web site: <http://www.edpaschke.com/home.html>.

For more information about the exhibit contact the College's Public Relations Department at 618-468-3220.

#