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ROBERT IRWIN AT PACE May 14-June 12, 1982

An exhibition of four paintings and installation drawings by Robert Irwin will open at The Pace Gallery on May 14, 1982 and continue through June 12.

Irwin continues to be an influential figure in the perceptual art movement. He was recently the subject of a two-part profile by Lawrence Weschler in The New Yorker and his biography by the same author was published in March. Irwin describes the dialogue which occurred between himself and his art in the 1960s — a process that led to his abandonment of the art object in the early 1970s: "From about 1960 to 1970 I used my painting as a step-by-step process, each new series of works acting in direct response to those questions raised by the previous series. I first questioned the mark (the image) as meaning and then even as focus; I then questioned the frame as containment, the edge as the beginning and end of what I see. In this way I slowly dismantled the act of painting to consider the possibility that no-thing ever really transcends its immediate environment."

The four paintings exhibited at Pace represent the successive stages of reduction which Irwin's work underwent. The late line paintings of 1962-63 are precursors to the dot series which Irwin first presented in 1966 at The Pace Gallery. The dot paintings were followed by two series of aluminum and acrylic disc paintings, convex discs which project from the wall and are illuminated by four overlapping floodlights. Project drawings for a scrim wall and a bisecting wall will also be included. This exhibition is a summary of works shown at Pace between 1966 and 1974.

For further information and photographs please contact Eve Rothenberg at 421-3292.

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