

# Photography as an Art Shown in U.H. Exhibit

By JEAN CHARLOT

A month-long exhibition of experimental photography is on display in the University of Hawaii Art Gallery in George Hall.

Is photography an art? If anyone is tempted to ask the question at this late date, it is unequivocally answered in the affirmative by the works of summer students, under the supervision of Francis Haar.

As agile as its sister arts, painting and sculpture, photography ranges from abstraction to the most exacting realism.

Particularly attuned to abstraction are photograms, where the object is put in direct contact with the sensitized plate without benefit of a camera. Photograms can be as deftly rhythmical and as evocative of an inner world as collage expressionism.

If your bend is to inquire how these dreamy effects are achieved, you will be surprised to recognize, in ghostly form, everyday objects, a dish towel, gauze from a Band-Aid, rubber bands, paper clips.

One of the most successful among the photograms uses no object, only the irregular flow of the developer itself.

Photography of a less unorthodox kind is linked by definition to the objective world. Nevertheless, here also, the sharply attuned eye of the artist reveals another world tucked within the world we know.

Angles bring unrest to the most static of architectures. Textures may be emphasized to the point of hallucination. The model need not be important or especially beautiful: a broken eggshell, white on a dark-grained plank . . . rippling water disturbed by rings made by a few drops of rain.

Folk art is represented by a vase full of posies, awry and innocently rendered as any kindergarten stuff. Fakery is suggested until one realizes that it is in fact the conscientious rendering of the corner of a kitchen apron.