THE WORLD OF ART

Four Exhibitions

Two Receptions Slated Today

By ALBERTA COLLIER

Paintings, drawings and prints by a leading Louisiana artist, emotional canvases by a New Orleans artist-teacher, 'creepy-crawler' rubber works by a young Lafayette sculptor, and color woodcuts by a contemporary Japanese printmaker are all on the exhibition menu for this week.

The first-mentioned paintings, etc., which represent the latest oeuvre of Robert Gordy, will be unveiled with a 6:30 to 9 p.m. reception this Sunday at the Galerie Simone Stern, 316 Royal; the second-mentioned, which were done by Lorraine Shay-Reyes, will be introduced at a 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday soiree at the 331 Gallery, 331 Chartres.

The "soft sculptures," which were dreamed up by Tom LaDousa, whose "soft sculptures" will appear at the Glade Gallery, have been attracting considerable attention from avant garde peers in the last year and his eerie creations have been included in a number of important juried shows.

This winter scene, done in traditional Japanese style, is one of a number of color woodcuts to be shown.

Robert Gordy, whose works will be shown by the Stern Gallery, believes that Matisse and "his way of putting things together" have exerted the greatest influence on his pictorial patterns.

Gordy says that when he was in college, everyone was painting like de Kooning. But he, when starting a figure, handled it in a sort of West Coast manner or did, until he actually went to the West Coast and became disenchanted with that school.

So he tried a different approach, simplifying the female form and combining it with other objects which would both support it and say something about its function.

About three years ago he began intensifying his values, using either a step up or a step down in strength of color or of light and dark. It was then that the whole, for him, began to come together. He says "...all the images I'd been working with for eight years or so...fell into place."

It was shortly after that the career of this native of Jefferson Island, La., also began to fall into place. And honors, which hitherto had been few and far between, began to roll in.

Robert Gordy with one of the canvases which will be in a solo show opening this Sunday at the Galerie Simone Stern.

Photos by The Times-Picayune.