LOUISIANA FOLK ARTISTS — The work of three Louisiana-born black primitive painters, Sister Gertrude Morgan (left), Bruce Brice (center) and Clementine Hunter (right), are on display at the Louisiana Art and Science Center on North Blvd. The exhibit comes to Baton Rouge from New York, where it was shown at the Museum for Modern Folk Art and received acclaim in reviews. The paintings, many concerned with the life of the black in Louisiana, will remain at LASC until mid-January.

La. Folk Paintings Exhibited

By PAT BALDRIDGE

An exhibit of Louisiana folk painting, featuring the work of three black Louisiana-born artists, is on display at the Louisiana Arts and Science Center. More than 60 examples of the work of Clementine Hunter, Sister Gertrude Morgan and Bruce Brice will be shown at LASC through mid-January.

Clementine Hunter took up painting when she retired as cook on Melrose Plantation in the Cane River Country of north Louisiana. Now over 90, she paints the baptisms, weddings, funerals, church-going, cotton picking, wash days and other events of plantation life as she knew it.

A New Orleans native, Brice maintains a studio in the French Quarter. His paintings focus on the world of the urban black in New Orleans today, and include subjects like the parades of the Olympia Brass Band, the black Zulu Mardi Gras parade, jambalaya and funerals, church-going, cotton picking, wash days and other events of plantation life as she knew it.

Sister Gertrude Morgan, 73, is a prophetess and retired street preacher who continues her missionary work in New Orleans’ Lower Ninth Ward. She paints the future — the coming of the New Jerusalem as prophesied in the New Testament Book of Revelations. With acrylics, poster paints, crayons, watercolors, and ball point pen on a variety of materials such as cardboard, window blinds and lamp shades, she illustrates her gospel teachings and thoughts to help spread ‘The Word.’

This exhibit of folk art comes to LASC from the Museum of Modern Folk Art in New York. While there, it was acclaimed both by the NBC-TV Today Show and the CBS-TV Morning News. The collection of Clementine Hunter’s work is on loan from Mrs. H. Payne Breazeale Sr., and the paintings of Brice and Morgan are on loan from the E. Lorenze Borenstein Galleries in New Orleans.

LASC is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.