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We open a new picture gallery

This week, on pages 4-7, LIFE opens a new department called "Gallery." It will be devoted to pictures for pictures' sake, and it will carry the work of photographers who have something unique to say in film.

This is an age of film—of intricate cameras, probing lenses, wild experiments in motion, color, shapes and images. Gallery will present experimental work on the frontiers of film, but it will also be open to traditional pictures valued for their

art or excitement. It will present tantalizing old pictures that remind us of our past, and its space will sometimes be used to review outstanding photographic books and exhibits.

Gallery's pictures are not chosen to tell a story or to report an event. They are a photographic statement, and they are there to be looked at, to convey a mood or an experience, a visual happening or simply an idea that has taken shape in the photographer's mind. A minimum of words will accompany the pictures. Gallery's pictures must



T. TANUM

speak for themselves, with as little interpretation and explanation as a painting in an art gallery requires from a catalogue listing.

This week, in our first exhibition, Gallery offers three photographs by a Japanese named T. Tanuma, who sees in the ancient art of falconry the brush strokes and monochromes of classical Japanese sumi painting. In the weeks that follow, Gallery will be a wall on which to hang the work of established masters as well as that of young photographers who are trying out fresh and sometimes outrageous techniques. Niklas Deak, an American born in Hungary, for example, melts the emulsion of his color transparencies over an open flame to achieve strange photographic effects. Jerry Uelsmann conducts what he calls a "visual research lab" in a photography class at the University of Florida. Instead of using his camera to record a single image, Uelsmann "postvisualizes" a picture, creating a single image from as many as four different negatives. Other approaches include "sandwich" images, pictures shot through deep, multiple filters and photomicroscopy that reveals bright patterns in the depths of crystals. But Gallery will often rely, as it does this week, on straightforward visual impact.

In short, Gallery will be as varied as LIFE's editors can make it—as varied and unlimited as that marvelous mechanism, the camera, and that even more unlimited mechanism, the eye of the photographer.

RALPH GRAVES
Managing Editor

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Grave questions about his midnight car accident

Ted Kennedy last May in Hyannis Port

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