

SAT. JUNE 18/66

Guggenheim Curator Quits, To Join SIU

Lawrence Alloway, curator of the Guggenheim Museum in New York, has resigned after being overruled in his selections for the United States Exhibit at the Venice Biennale opening Saturday.

Alloway will become an artist in residence next fall at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. For the Venice Biennale, Alloway chose work by Jackson Pollack, Joseph Cornell, David Smith, Roy Lichtenstein (pop artist) and Ernest Trova, St. Louis artist who recently gained new fame for his "Falling Man" series.

But Thomas Messer, director of the museum changed Alloway's selections dropping Pollack and Lichtenstein for work by Larry Rivers and Isami Noguchi. The change turned the U.S. exhibit into an all-sculpture affair.

Because of this, the National Collection of Fine Arts, government agency sponsoring U. S. participation in the show canceled its agreement with the Guggenheim Museum to make the selection.

The agency said the Guggenheim delay in revealing its plans entailed formidable staging

costs and chose Henry Geldzahler of the Metropolitan Museum, to assemble the U. S. art. He chose work by Jules Olitski, Helen Frankenthaler, Ellsworth Kelly and Lichtenstein.

The Venice Biennale is regarded as the most important of international art shows.

Alloway coined, or at least is one of the coiners of "Pop" art to describe one of the most avant-garde trends. Shows he has arranged have attracted wide interest and critical attack. John Canaday, New York Times critic, described him as having shown "himself to be a young man who feels that he is behind times, if he is no more than abreast of the movement."

He was born in London 39 years ago and studied art history at London University. He has been an art critic and has taught art at Bennington College. He has two exhibits pending at Guggenheim: American abstract and Jean Debuffet's work since 1932.

His job at SIU is for one year. He then expects to resume art criticism and to write a book on American abstract art.