Contemporary Art Exhibit At College Gallery

A selection of the work of 20th century American artists, including Mark Rothko and Willem De Kooning, is on exhibit at Bennington College's Usdan Gallery through October 24.

Selected by New York City curator Emily Sorkin, the show also includes work by Ronald Bladen, Jim Clark, Larry Deyab, Jan Muller, Bill Jensen and

Agnes Martin.

The show is titled "Matter and Spirit." It presents an unusual group of works in that, as Sorkin notes, "These artists share the will to achieve an impossibility—the union of matter and spirit. Painter and critic Fairfield Porter expressed this notion when he talked about Rothko: 'Art permits you to accept illogical immediacy, and in doing so, releases you from chasing after the distant and ideal. When this occurs, the effect is exalting."

This is Sorkin's second Bennington show. In 1983, she curated one of the college's bi-annual major art events, a show called "New York to Bennington."

The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 1 to 5 p.m. The public is welcome without charge.