

# LA WEEKLY

ART GALLERIES

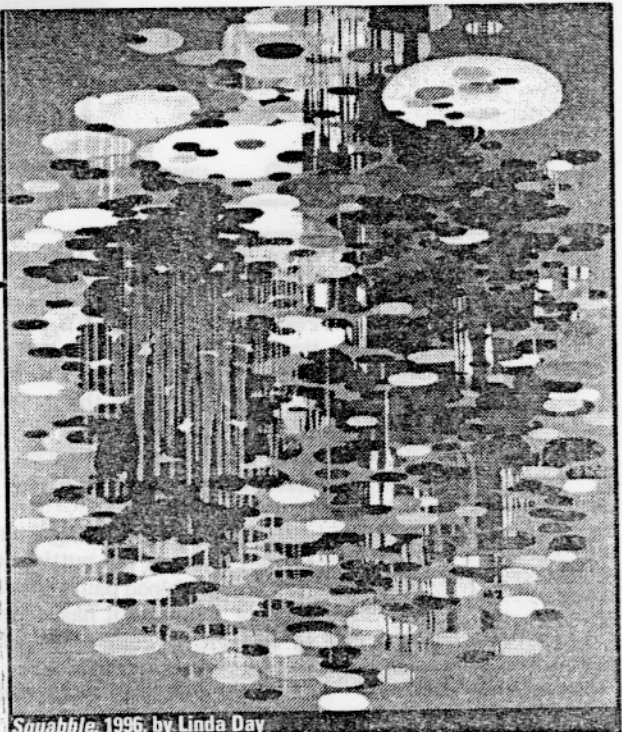
CALENDAR

## ART PICKS OF THE WEEK

### TEEMING, LINDA DAY

The four painters in "Teeming" are among L.A.'s most accomplished abstractionists, all staking out distinctive interpretations of what has been called "organic abstraction" — but which is a lot more organic in Marie Thiebaault's case than in, say, Linda Day's. Thiebaault clearly works from nature, favoring branchlike tendrils and the evocation of densely foliated space. Conversely, there is only the most ambiguous, flattened space in Robin Mitchell's canvases, filled with ornate orbiting lines and an occasional spinelike formation, and in Merion Estes' limpid paintings, in which clusters of painterly incident — resembling organic matter of some sort — have an alternately gravitational pull on and repulsion from one another. In Day's work, also seen in a separate little one-person show, myriad, intensely colored ovals cluster and cascade, buzzing off one another as they float in some indistinguishable ether. While her teem-mates take up where Monet left off, boldly going where no water lily has gone before, Day gently jabs at Giverny, puncturing the pretense that has accrued to the Impressionists' apotheosis — and in the process concocting paintings that are beautiful in their own right.

—Peter Frank



*Squabble, 1996, by Linda Day*