The Getty Research Institute hosts a discussion on Lee Mullican’s art and his influence as a teacher and thinker on the occasion of An Abundant Harvest of Sun, his first career retrospective, currently on view at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Participants include artists Tony Berlant and Lari Pittman; Jack Stauffacher, founder of the legendary Greenwood Press; and moderator Henry Hopkins. In keeping with Mullican’s artistic and spiritual interests, the panel will be followed by a musical performance of Indian ragas, featuring the Raga Ranjani Ensemble.

From 1952 until his death nearly fifty years later, Mullican lived and worked in Los Angeles. He produced a prodigious body of work while serving as a long-time faculty member at the University of California at Los Angeles, where he was a mentor to some of the region’s most important up-and-coming artists. Mullican’s work is characterized by a life-long quest to seek out and identify the spiritual aspects of art. As part of the artistic collective Dynaton, Mullican collaborated with Gordon Onslow Ford and Wolfgang Paalen to convey expansive metaphysical concepts, while simultaneously employing his skills as a map-maker to ground his art in the physical world. Mullican drew from a wide range of sources for his inspiration, including Native American religions, Surrealism, Zen Buddhism, and jazz music. The expressive use of color, layered textures, and geometric shapes situate his paintings between specific reference and pure abstraction.

This program is part of the Getty’s ongoing Modern Art in Los Angeles series.

Admission to this event is free. To attend, please make a reservation by visiting www.getty.edu or calling (310) 440-7300. Note, late arrivals cannot be guaranteed seating. Parking is $7.00 per car.