

SOHO NEWS

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Edward Balassanian

Museum Collection, reflecting the Museum's vigorous acquisition efforts on the line of its formation to the present; includes well-known works from the original core collection. On permanent view *Pioneers of Abstract Art*, housed in a newly created space. Thru Aug.

HABER THEODORE GALLERY, 29 W 57 St., 752-3338. John Lennard, new paintings. Thru July 7.
HANSEN GALLERY, 17 S William St., 943-0222. Peter West, paintings/sculpture. Thru July 5.

HIBBS GALLERY, 225 W 28 St., 947-3130. Tue-Sat, 2-7. *Fantasy Friends*: John T. Mack & Wheeler, charcoals, pastels on paper. Thru July 19.

NANCY HOFFMAN GALLERY, 429 West Broadway, 966-6676. Mon-Fri, 10-5. *Summer Group Show*. Thru Sept 7.

JACK GALLERY, 138 Prince St., 966-4235. Tue-Sun, 12-6. *Summer Group Show*, paintings, drawings, sculpture. Thru Sept 7.

L. KAHAN GALLERY, 48 E 57 St., 355-5110. Mon-Fri, 9-5. *Tambu Parting from Tradition to Transition*. Thru July.

ART PICKS

William Zimmer

Sonia Balassanian: Hostages, a Diary Elise Meyer

410 West Broadway (through July 12)

Sonia Balassanian's abstract paintings look like cardiographs, as they consist of a fervid onrush of scribbling based on Pharsi (Persian) script. At least she painted that way before she found herself entangled in the Iranian revolution, when in the fall of 1978 she returned to Teheran with the balmy prospect of teaching art at the university.

Now back in New York, Balassanian has metamorphosed into a political artist. She has amassed all the printed matter she can about the revolution and seizure of the hostages, and has reacted to it in her own way — obsessively scribbling over all of it. (One wall of the gallery gets material added daily.) For all her passion, Balassanian impresses as a dispassionate historian (though there's no love lost between her and the shah) whose fingers are on all the pressure points. Her untamable work is convincingly heartfelt.

lons, an historical exhibition of the different systems of three-dimensional imaging. Thru July 20.
MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, 11 W 53 St., 956-6100. Thur, 11-9. Fri-Tue, 11-6. *Pablo Picasso: A Retrospective*. Thru Sept 16.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, Fifth Av & 42 St., 790-6551. *Camille Pissarro and Impressionist Printmaking*. Thru July 15.

NOHO GALLERY, 542 LaGuardia Pl., 473-9619. *One Two Three: Progressions*, group show of gallery artists dealing with the progression of their current work. Thru July 20.

NONSON GALLERY, 133 Wooster St., 982-0494. Tue-Sat, 12-6. *John J. Karstman, kinetic images*. Thru July 10.

NUMEROFF, 451 Broome St., 925-2994. Tue-Sat, 11-5. *Textile Arts of the H'kong & Yao Mountain Peoples of Southeast Asia*. Thru July 2.

OK HARRIS, 383 West Broadway, 431-3600. *Tom Habert, wall reliefs, John Kacera, paintings, 17th to 19th century tools from the collection of Jan Firch*. Thru June 14. *Summer International 1980*, group show. Thru mid-Aug.

R H OOSTEROM, 50 W 57 St., 581-3036. *Summer Group*. Thru the