SHOWS NOT TO MISS

The Embodied Image: Chinese Calligraphy from the John B. Elliott Collection, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City through 7 January. The show will then travel to the Seattle Art Museum.

Edward Steichen at the Whitney Museum of American Art through 7 February.

La Divine Comtesse: Photographs of the Countess de Castiglione at the Metropolitan Msueum of Art through 31 December.

Writing on Hands: Memory and Knowledge in Early Modern Europe at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC from 13 December - 4 March. writingonhands.org

Yayoi Kusama: Early Drawings from the Collection of Richard Castellane at the Birmingham Museum of Art from 3 December - 28 January.

Made in California: Art, Image and Identity, 1900-2000, about 800 works including all media with video and film interspersed dynamically, along with 350 cultural documents. Through 25 February 2001.

Art Nouveau: 1980-1914 at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC through 28 January.

Andy Warhol: Social Observer at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC through 19 February.

Amazons of the Avant-Garde at the Guggenheim Museum, 5th Ave., New York City through 7 January.

Passages: Contemporary African-American Art in Transition at the Miami Art Museum through 31 December.

Hitchcock and Art: Fatal Coincidences at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts from 16 November - 18 March 2001 including 300 pieces of movie memorabilia, 40 film excerpts and 200 paintings, sculptures and decorative items.

Miriam Schapiro: A Retrospective of Paintings, 1954-1997 at the Minnesota Museum of American Art through 28 January.

A Woman's Hand: Designing Textiles in America, 1945-1969 at the Museum at the Fashion Institute of America, New York City through 13 January 2001. Hip-Hop Nation: Roots, Rhymes and Rage at the Brooklyn Museum of Art through 31 December.

Utopia: The Search for the Ideal Society in the Western World, an exhibition of hundreds of books, manuscripts, maps, prints, photographs, bits of music, film, Nazi paraphernalia, Soviet propaganda, 1960 antiwar buttons, rock album covers and many other curiosities at the New York Public Library at Fifth Avenue and 42nd St. through 27 January 2001.

Fred Tomaselli at James Cohan Gallery, New York City through 13 January 2001.

Laszlo Moholy-Nagy: Photograms, Photographs, Prints, Drawings, Collages, Ephemera through 22 December 2000 at ubu Gallery, 16 E. 78th St., New York City.

India Through the Lens: Photography 1840-1911 at the Sackler Gallery in Washington, DC from 3 December - 25 March 2001.

Ultra Baroque: Aspects of Post Latin American Art at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego through 7 January.

Ed Ruscha at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago through 4 February. Includes 65 paintings and 20 drawings, as well as artist books.

The Etruscans at the Palazzo Grassi through 1 July 2001, Venice, Italy.

Charlotte Salomon: Life? Or Theatre?, from 10 December - 25 March at the Jewish Museum, New York. A CD-Rom which accompanies the 400 semi-autobiographical text-paintings is indispensile for a complete understanding of the works, translating the German texts and playing music which Salomon suggested should accompany her images.

Fatal Coincidences: Hitchcock and Art at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts from 16 November 2000 - 16 April 2001.

