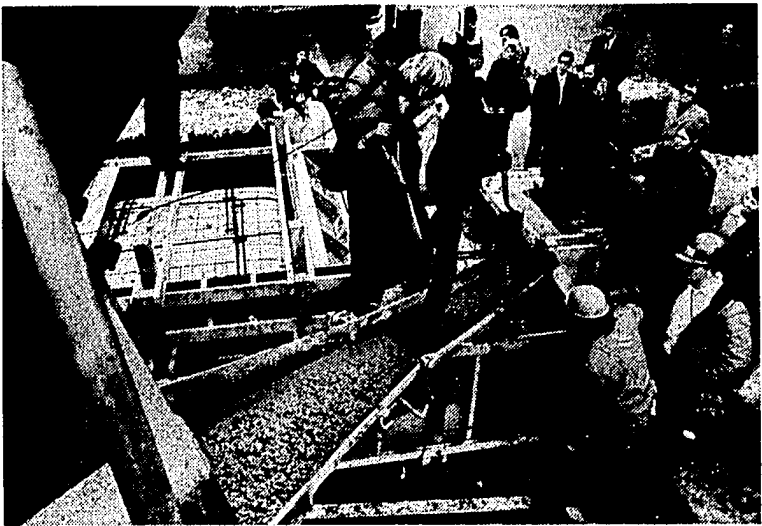


James O'Hara [left] and Milan Koluntzija build form around old Cadillac sedan.



[TRIBUNE Staff Photos]

Eight yards of concrete is poured onto auto, which will be on display at parking lot at Ontario and St. Clair streets.

Recipe for Instant Art Work: Take a Cadillac, Add Cement

BY MICHAEL KILIAN

About 100 Chicagoans gathered at a parking lot at Ontario and St. Clair streets yesterday to watch a cement mixer pour 18 tons of fresh concrete over a Cadillac sedan.

In the name of art. More specifically, in the name of the Museum of Contemporary Art, an institution at 237 E. Ontario st. which is noted for its unusual works of art.

Featured Canvas Exhibit

Last year, the museum feature and exhibit by a European artist which consisted of objects with canvas thrown over them. One of the canvas-covered objects was the museum building itself.

This year's cultural breakthrough is the work of Wolf Vostell of Germany, an artist who specializes in "instant happenings" as an art form, according

to Jan van der Marck, museum director.

In order to express what is happening to civilization today, Vostell selected the Cadillac as "the epitome of the American auto," and then poured concrete over it to symbolize traffic congestion.

Few Days for Drying

After allowing a few days for drying, the resultant work is to be uncovered and left on display for several weeks, edifying art lovers and mystify-

ing parking lot customers.

"Then we shall try to find a good home for it," van der Marck said.

Only rarely does Vostell indulge in concrete-covered cars, van der Marck said, noting that his last such effort was 12 years ago.

His long delay before trying again may well be blamed on Vostell's wife.

"The last time he used the family car," van der Marck said.