

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

Harper's
BAZAAR

Ed Ruscha's Los Angeles



ED RUSCHA'S
LOS ANGELES



FEW CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS conjure the kind of connection between person and place as Ed Ruscha does with Southern California. This month, Ruscha's photographs of Los Angeles in the 1960s and '70s are the subject of "In Focus," an exhibition at L.A.'s Getty Center. His inspiration "is this city," he tells *Bazaar*. "San Francisco would not have given me this, nor New York, nor Chicago. But Los Angeles had it." "It" is the juxtaposition of Hollywood's rich history with a sense of transience. The images feature buildings that Ruscha felt had "perspective drama. Some look a little tacky, but they were contemporary. I like anything that tries to sort of lurch out of the picture," he says. "I didn't want them to have too much nostalgia." Time flies, though, Ruscha admits: "They're beginning to have a nostalgic look to them."