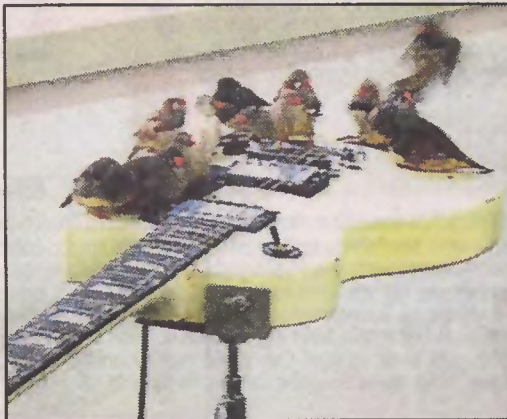


ART LOVERS FLOCK TO BIRDS ON A WIRE



TALK about rock chicks! It's not rockin' robins, but 40 finches strumming out a tune on a plugged-in electric guitar in the name of art, writes Ron McManus.

The sound that results from the birds hopping up and down on a guitar string won't give The Eagles one of those nights, but the show at The Barbican in London is proving a big crowd-puller.

The film of birds of a feather strumming together is part of an artwork by French artist Celeste Boursier-Mougenot.

The birds — should that be The Byrds? — are free to fly around, land on the strings, pluck away with their beaks then fly off again.

The resultant din might sound like a drunken guitarist falling down a flight of stairs to some people but, to others, it's art.

The exhibition is on at the Barbican until May 23.