'Minnesota Landscape Art of the 1990s' exhibit opens Dec. 2

Nineteen Minnesota artists will show works in an exhibit, “Minnesota Landscape Art of the 1990s,” Dec. 2-Feb. 28 on the St. Paul and Minneapolis campuses of the University of St. Thomas.

The exhibit will be on display in the main-floor art space in Brady Educational Center on the St. Paul campus, and in the second-floor art space at the Minneapolis campus.

An opening reception with the artists will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at the Minneapolis campus.

The exhibit provides a look at the state’s landscape that varies with the artists’ styles of work, places of residence and creative personalities. Works include paintings in watercolor, oil and acrylics; drawings in charcoal and pastels; a wood sculpture; a piece of fiber art with metallic quilting and hand-beading, photography and even a multimedia program.

Inspiring each of these artists are Minnesota’s urban and rural landscapes: lakes, forest, cliffs, rolling farm fields, small towns and city streets. The works also make political, social and economic statements reflecting concern for the environment, need for preservation and love of nature.

Among the nature-inspired artworks is a six-foot totemlike wood sculpture, “The Seasons,” by Minneapolis artist Paul Eugene Olson. The sculpture’s abstract design provides a hint of mystery, but rich color and the wood’s natural grain vary on each side, defining each season. Olson is able, as he says, “to touch the mysterious while interpreting the natural world around me.”

The natural world also is evident in a painting by George Morrison, whose career spans more than 50 years. Morrison, who continues to work in his home studio located on the red rocks of Lake Superior just outside Grand Portage, offers a small acrylic-on-board painting that is part of a series depicting Lake Superior landscapes. Titled “Hard Distance: The Way of the Green,” the painting calls to mind horizons that are a point of balance for the art and the artist.

Personal “landscapes” also are included in the exhibit. Award-winning Rochelle Woldorsky, of Minneapolis, created a HyperCard video program, “Transitional Landscape,” in 1992 and 1993. “The subject of this work is ... going back to a childhood place seeing the changes. Memory images superimpose themselves on the present,” she wrote.

Dianne McAnaney’s exhibition piece, “Contemplation,” is a 50-by-60 inch “quilt” that honors Minnesota’s tradition of utilitarian decoration. The artist calls this work a “fiber landscape” of hand-dyed natural fabrics with ornamental threads and beads. Fusing traditional and contemporary form, the work also “honors the tradition of generations of women, including my own family, who made works of art from bits of cloth,” she said.

Other artists whose work appears in the exhibit are: Virginia Adams, Wendell Arneson, Daniel Bruggeman, Virginia Randolph Bueide, Steven Carpenter, Ellen Eilers, Anges Fine, Perry Ingli, Lisa Johannes, Karen Knutson, Wendy Lane, Mike Lynch, Tom Maakestad, Duane Paulson and Heidi Poey.

Curators of the exhibit are St. Thomas seniors Mary Monn and Helen Stidger, who have assembled an impressive overview of the heritage of landscape art in the state. Over the past year, they researched and assessed the work of contemporary landscape artists in the state, produced a catalog and an informational video introducing the artists and their work, and prepared didactic materials for the exhibition. The exhibit is sponsored by the UST Art Exhibitions Committee.

For more info, call the Art History Department, (612) 962-5560.
St. Thomas art collection growing; sculpture garden planning underway

The Arts Acquisitions Committee has added some recent additions to the university’s permanent art collection. “House of Fingerprints,” a pastel by Rachelle Woldorsky, was purchased for the Minneapolis campus. A Kuba wood cosmetic box with finely patterned top and original razor, and a Kuba raffia cloth that is velour with elaborate geometric design were purchased from the Hurst Gallery which specializes in non-western art. These African items may be viewed at the Luann Dummer Center for Women.

Congratualtions, 1995-’96 graduates

Majors

Kirsten DeBoer
Tomomi Fujii
Stephanie Hodges Krusemark
Amy Schmitt
Kelly Teske

Minors

Janine Barrett
Katherine Burke
Michelle Capistrant
Alicia Fedorczak
Rebekah Gaiser
Ruth Martinsen

Dr. Mark Stansbury-O’Donnell is chairing a committee charged with purchasing art for the new science and engineering center. Five works of sculpture will be permanently installed in the sculpture garden, and the tower of the science center will contain stained glass. Models of the art being considered may be viewed at the O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center. Please contact Mark with your comments on the models at (612) 962-5564, m9stansburyo.

Our graduates will do well in whatever they do; here are a few examples of what a fantastic group this is. Kirsten is traveling in India in preparation for eight months of volunteer work in Madras; Stephanie, and new husband Matt Krusemark, spent the summer working at an interpretive center with two Native American tribes in the Mojave Desert National Preserve. Stephanie began graduate work in arts administration this fall at St. Mary’s University, Winona, MN.; Alicia and Kelly were recipients of the department’s Outstanding Research and Scholarship Award presented in the spring; Alicia was an academic athlete with a cumulative G.P.A above 3.8 and captain of the swim team. She is currently traveling in Australia and Europe; Kelly is presently living in Calif. and planning to apply to graduate school there; Tomomi worked a summer internship at the Minnesota Museum of American Art. Alicia, Kelly, Stephanie and Tomomi presented their senior papers at the Senior art history Forum in May. Good luck to all the graduates.

Welcome, new majors and minors

Please welcome the new majors and minors:

Majors

Jonathan Burt
Kristen Collins
Lawanna De Ferrante
Renee Firner
Christian Hanson
Brigid Klein
Eric Menzhuber
Megan Moe
Emily Rush
Tracy Shaw
Heather Thimm
Leo Winstead (Studio Arts/Art History)

Minors

Natalia Budilkins
Amber Eichten
Zania Flemming
Kathleen Noon
Judith Koppen
Melissa Shaddock
Gioia Socha
Brent Stoffel

New course offered spring semester

Women’s Art in a Global Perspective (ARTH 291-01) will be offered for the first time this spring. Anne D’Alleva will teach the course which combines the study of women artists from Africa, the Americas, the Pacific Islands, Asia and elsewhere with an examination of theoretical issues, the problems and possibilities posed by women’s art as a category of analysis, the intersection of gender, race, and class is factors in artistic production, and the relationship between gender and medium.

The course is cross-listed under Women’s Studies and will be offered from 1:55 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Fall ArtVideo Series videos available

The fall video series consisted of eight videos of individual artists: Giotto, Jacques-Louis David, Mary Cassatt, Degas, Paul Cezanne, Edward Hopper, Frida Kahlo, and Georgia O’Keefe. Anne D’Alleva offered a series of five African films this semester. If you are interested in borrowing any of the videos or want to be included on the mailing list, please call Sue, 962-5560. The spring video series begins in February 1997.

Congratulations to Ed Kodet Jr.

Ed Kodet Jr. FAIA, a former adjunct art history instructor at St. Thomas, has been elected president of the American Institute of Architects. Kodet taught Introduction to the History of Architecture at UST fall 1993 and spring 1994.
Faculty news

Anne D’Alleva led a workshop on “Gender, Feminism, and the Art History Survey” at the Barnard Feminist Art and Art History Conference, Barnard College, New York City, on Oct. 11.

Shelly Nordtrop-Madson is serving this year as administrator of the arts exhibition and acquisitions committees. She curated the exhibition “Women in Print: Prints From 3M by Contemporary Women Printmakers.” Shelly taught two seminars at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts this fall: Early Medieval Art and Later Medieval Art.

Mark Stansbury-O’Donnell will be on sabbatical spring semester. He will be completing a book on the analysis of pictorial narrative in Greek art. Mark is chairing a committee charged with choosing five works of sculpture and works of stained glass for the new science and engineering center.

Mary Swanson curated an exhibition, “Konsten och Fäderneslandet, Om svensk-amerikansk konst: Elusive Images of Home” for the Swedish Jubilee committee, celebrating 150 years of immigration to America. The exhibition opened Oct. 19 at Millesgården, a museum in Stockholm, and will tour Swedish museums and culture houses throughout 1997. She wrote the catalog (published in Swedish and English) for the exhibition and gave a presentation on the exhibition at the home of the American ambassador, Thomas Siebert, on Oct. 21 in Stockholm. Mary is co-chair of the Council for Undergraduate Research.

Susan Webster’s book, Art and Ritual in Golden-Age Spain: Confraternities and the Processional Sculpture of Holy Week, was accepted for publication by Princeton University Press. The book should be out by spring 1998. Susan was awarded a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies for travel to Braga, Portugal, to present a paper on Spanish processional tableaux at an international conference in June. Webster is teaching “Spanish Art and Culture of the Siglo De Oro” during January Term in Spain.

Matthew Welch’s article, “Out of the Fire,” was published in Arts, April 1996. The article is about the new kiln at St. John’s University designed by Richard Bresnahan and named after Sister Johanna Becker. Becker taught Asian art at UST spring 1994. Welch is teaching Asian art this semester.

Student and alumni news: Travel, scholarship, exhibits, curating and more

Kari Amundson will spend three weeks in January traveling near the Scottish border in England. We extend our sincere sympathy to Kari on the death of her father.

Leisl AuVante received a $1,500 scholarship from Jeane Thorne Inc. This scholarship is awarded to minority students and “supports the company’s belief in business helping education. For it is through quality education that we will train a quality workforce.”

Stacy (Hennen) Bauer ’94 is a kindergarten teacher and expecting her first child in March.

Cynthia Bland ’95 is attending the master’s program in Renaissance art at the University of Iowa, and working as a teaching assistant.

Sarah Crawford ’93, is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Kansas, and is teaching abroad spring semester in Florence, Italy and Paris, France for a group of 20 KU undergraduates.

Catherine Damico spent spring semester studying in Galway, Ireland.

Susan Holt ’95 is in the graduate program at UST in the School of Education, studying elementary education.

Liz Houle ’89 graduated from the University of Minnesota with a master of science in scientific and technical communication. She is applying to the U of M’s Ph.D. program in design communication. Presently, Liz is assistant director of academic computer services at Metropolitan State University.

An exhibition of John Jarpe’s paintings was displayed last spring on campus.

Sarah Jobe ’95 works for City Pages in graphic design and plans on attending the Minneapolis College of Art and Design in design or studio art.

Patty Michalski ’95 is an admissions counselor at UST and is actively promoting the art history department to new students.

Working in the Slide Library this semester are Jennifer Geffre, Sarah Goble, and Emily Rush.

Mary Monn and Helen Stidger are curating an exhibit titled “Minnesota Landscape Art of the 1990s.” The exhibit opens Dec. 2 and runs through February 1997. Mary and Helen are returning adult students majoring in art history. Mary, who also works in St. Thomas’ Binz Refectory, is an officer on the UST Staff Council.

Our prayers and thoughts are with Brent Stoffel as he recovers from a bike accident.

Kristi Vos presented a paper on unit cohesion in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Regiment at the Northern Great Plains History Conference in September in LaCrosse, Wis.

Pamela Steiner ’94 is attending graduate school at the University of Minnesota’s College of Human Ecology pursuing a degree in design-communication.
Fall features ‘Women in Print’ exhibit

“Women in Print,” an exhibition of 39 contemporary American women printmakers, was on display at St. Thomas this fall in the O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center, the Art Space gallery in the Brady Educational Center, and the Minneapolis campus gallery. The exhibition was part of 3M’s permanent collection, whose curator is Charles Helsell. An opening reception and gallery tour by Charles Helsell was held Sept. 30 in the O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center. Shelly Nordtrop-Madson curated the exhibition for the university. Obtain a color catalog from the exhibit by calling Sue Focke in the Art History Department office, (612) 962-5560.

Thinking about an internship?

If you are interested in interning at a local gallery or museum, call our internship coordinator, Ginger Moraczewski, 962-5562. Possible internships are available at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Thomas Barry Fine Arts, Minnesota Museum of American Art, HECUA, and the Science Museum, just to name a few.

Grad School Update

On Oct. 18 an on-site evaluator, Prof. Sam Edgerton, came to campus to discuss the department’s proposal for an M.A. program in art history. Edgerton, director emeritus of the graduate program at Williams College, met with administration and faculty and will submit an evaluation of the proposal. This will be an important element in the decision as to whether or not to proceed with the master’s program.

Check it out

The O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center has purchased a 34-volume Dictionary of Art. A special thanks to the library and especially Susan Price for their help in obtaining what will be the premier reference work in art history.

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Get your news to ARTHfacts

Please mail your ARTHfacts contributions to Sue Focke, LOR 302, or call (612) 962-5560 with your comments and ideas.