

Out & About

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



"That They May All Be One"
by Helen Castaneda, Christiansburg, acrylic

"Summer Heat Wave, Nine Patch"

by Judith Love Schwab, of Newport, copper and fabric



"Red Lily"
by Harry Yeatts
Jr. of Blacksburg,
photograph

Pulaski exhibit highlights regional artists

Looking for something to do during the holidays?

How about just doing some looking?

New River Art '01 - a juried exhibit of works by local artists - is on display at the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley in Pulaski.

The show, which opened earlier this month, includes works by 18 artists from around the region. All media, except handicrafts, were eligible.



**DONNA
ALVIS-BANKS**

Trudi Van Dyke, director and curator of the Ellipse Arts Center in Arlington, was this year's juror. She selected 24 of 138 submissions for inclusion in the show.

"Trudi has served as a panelist for the Virginia Commission for the arts and has juried local, regional and national shows," noted Penelope Moseley, spokeswoman for the Fine Arts Center. "We are fortunate to have a juror of this caliber for New River Art '01."

Moseley said that works submitted for the show ranged from "encaustic, copper monotypes, screen prints and the usual oils, watercolors and photography in two and three-dimensional expressions"

PLEASE SEE ARTISTS/15



**"Rena's
Clothesline"**
by Joyce Waller,
Radford,
watercolor

From 3 Artists

“The variety, the character of the artists who have submitted, as well as the caliber of the juror, will provide one of most exciting exhibitions this year,” she said.

Helen Castaneda of Christiansburg, one of the artists-whose work was selected for the exhibition, said she was excited to be a part of the show. The entries, she noted, were exceptional.

Castaneda’s abstract in acrylic, entitled “That They May All Be One,” is a piece she completed last year.

The story behind it is particularly poignant, she said, following the events of Sept. 11.

Castaneda, who works with international students in the New River Valley, said her work was kindled by a discussion with an engineering student from Jordan.

He had a lot of anger about the Palestinian conflict,” she recalled.

In an effort to share her

feelings with the student about her religious beliefs, she shared her artwork with him.

“Love is at the basis of all religion,” she said, explaining that this was the message she hoped to get across in “That They May All Be One.” The painting depicts a mosque, a church and a synagogue in close proximity.

The student, she noted, wasn’t persuaded by her discourse, but he was impressed with her artistic statement.

He didn’t seem to see it

until I did the painting” she said.

In addition to Castaneda, artists accepted into the exhibition include Leslye Bloom, Betty Moore, Harry Yeatts Jr., Janet Spahr, Nadine Allen and Frances Frederick of Blacksburg. Joyce Waller and Mei Shu of Radford, as well as Aileen Fletcher of Christiansburg, have works on display.

Newport artists Judith Schwab and Ali Wieboldt, Miki Ballengee of Roanoke, Susan

Bidwell of Huddleston, Charlie Brouwer of Willis, Marcus Alan Vincent of Lexington, Alvis Jackson Jr. of Low Moor and Penelope Moseley of Hillsville also had works accepted.

New River Art ‘01 continues through December at the Fine Arts Center, 21 West Main St., Pulaski. The gallery will be closed today and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday but will be open Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Weekday hours are from, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 980-7363 for more information.

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