

Happening

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Andy Mayhall gave a short presentation during the opening reception and explained their work.

Mayhall has a cartoon style and his works in water-colors would be considered "concept" in style as he has created a series based on a martini and olive theme that also includes some dogs. His new "concept" is the "egg" which he is finding that he's working into his paintings such as "Searching for an Egg" on display at this show. "I kind of think of what it would be like to have a chicken sitting on your head and pecking and scratching all day long when you're trying to think," says Mayhall. Adding perspective to the group is Dede Bangs, a photographer. She works in black and white prints focusing on architectural details and sculptures found in cities and cemeteries. "I first became interested in the statues in the cemetery in Oshkosh. It has an unusual amount of these very interesting statues. When I print my photos I like to add textual backgrounds and foregrounds to 'age' the prints."

Robert Carpenter is the texture for the group. He creates assemblages and collage pieces. His favorite is consistency, a light box with a collage of cut-out pictures from the '40's along with nails pounded upright into the box

North. I liked it so much that I went back later for the one that said 'Ladies.' "Another box is a tribute to Frank Lloyd Wright. This box incorporates glass rods and lenses that bend light to distort pictures of Wright's buildings.

The boxes are 'unfinished' with the outside frame looking like outdoor grade wood, the electrical fixtures and switches are also out in the open and unfinished, giving the pieces that raw, immediate texture.

If you go, you won't want to miss Dede Bangs's oversized photo print or Tim O'Neill's Honey Bear Night Light sculpture by the stairs going 'up'.

Combined in one show, these individual artists present an interesting art walk through the BioPharmaceutical Technology Center. The individual talents of these artists bring together all the necessary elements, and Arthie becomes a complete ArtPiece.

The exhibit is open to the public Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call (608) 277-2669.



Artists and their work
Tim O'Neill and Theresa Abel pose in front of painting by Theresa. She is sitting upon a handmade wooden bench by Tim O'Neill.

ARTBITE: not just a bite, a whole chunk
By: Ann Winters

What elements make up a good piece of art? Good design, balance, use of color, perspective, texture, interest, mastered technique and concept is the answer to that question.

Find out how these elements fit together to make a complete art piece at the current exhibit at Promega's Biopharmaceutical Technology Center exhibit.

Daniel Swadener has put together possibly his most interesting exhibition yet with the new show, Artistic Megaphone.

Arthie, a group of seven local artists, embodies all the qualities in an art piece, in the repetition, and through them, their shows.

Let's start out with the first element—good design. Artist Theresa Abel works in oil and gold leaf on panels. Her subject matter is frequently ancient religious tales, with a subtle, wicked twist. Everyone knows the story of George and the Dragon, but few know the actual, gruesome fate of George.

Abel, who has researched the myths and studied Byzantine icon painting, discovered two versions of the same tale, with vastly different endings—the dragon being fanned and the dragon getting killed. The ending most people do not hear is the one that Abel's portrait depicts, the rather nude thank you George received.

His severed head is held dangling from a princess's hand within the folds of her dress. The scene is beautifully portrayed in rich hues that characterize the Byzantine era iconography surrounded the artists participating in the current exhibit at Promega.

The element of color is emphasized in Debra Gottschalk's works. Her paintings depict "vacation scenes, places where I've been and that I like to remember," says Debra. She has put lakes and water in her paintings. "That's because I've been eating my lunch on a bench near a lake and I watch the interplay of color with the waves and plants and it's fascinated me." She included a painting of purple flowers in this exhibit that is mesmerizing. There is a quality of stillness and tranquility that flows through her work.

Gottschalk, who has been painting since she "was about two," makes color work for her to the extent of choosing the color of frame to work with the color in the pictures she paints.

Keith Hoppmann's oil paintings take a personal and literal theme. Hoppmann works with the concepts of the seven deadly sins, using family members and herself as models. "I keep going back and doing them (the seven deadly sin themes) again. I have no idea why. I'm just drawn to them." She's worked in oils for the past five years and says her paintings are in response to the old school of thought and painting, that portrayed women as evil, as in Adam and Eve.

She has an excellent drawing and painting technique and has portrayed members of her family that had a special significance to her in circumstances that were less than cheery; such as the aunt who wanted to win a picture of the boy who actually won the pony.

Left to right: Robert Carpenter, Theresa Abel, Dede Bangs, Tim O'Neill, Debra Gottschalk, Keith Hoppmann, Andy Mayhall, and Arthie.



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