

RUG IT!

The warmth and charm of traditionally hooked rugs will surround visitors at the current exhibit at the Fredericton National Exhibition Centre. Over 40 contemporary hooked rugs by members of the Heritage Rug Hooking Guild of Fredericton will be on display from January 27 - February 24, 1988. In addition to these recently made rugs a number of antique hooked mats from the collections of the Musée Acadien and the Keillor House Museum in Dorchester will also be shown.

Practical and appealing, hooked rugs were a popular home craft produced by North American women since the late 18th century. The craft flourished especially after the mid-1800's with the introduction of burlap; a most suitable backing material for hooked rugs. Similar to handmade quilts, and born of the same thrift and desire to create things of beauty and usefulness for the home, hooked rugs were made of recycled fabrics from discarded family clothing or other items. Many hours of labour were required to produce a hooked rug which is constructed by drawing loops of narrow strips of fabric or yarn through the backing with a hooked tool. Designs were simple, bold and often colorful compositions as found in many folk art items. Patterns could be created by the maker, shared with others in the community or, after 1860, purchased from commercial sources. The earliest practitioners of this craft were the women of the northeast coast of North America; from Acadia, other parts of eastern Canada and New England.

Sadly, over the past few decades rug hooking had almost died out as a home craft. Again, similar to quilt making, the craft is experiencing a revival. In recent years a number of Guilds for Rug Hooking have been formed in Canada and the United States, teachers are sharing their skills and ideas with others and various companies are again producing designs and materials for traditional hooked rugs.

**CONNEXION EXHIBITS HUFF**

Mark Huff from Presque Isle will show his ceramic sculptures and drawings at Gallery Connexion from February 7-27 in an exhibition entitled 'Searching for the Onions Heart'.

Everyone is invited to come and meet the artist during the opening reception on Sunday February 7th from 2-4 pm.

Huff's sculptures physically manifest ideas or metaphors in clay. He builds abstract

ideas into often quite humorous objects which often have deeper and hidden meanings. His influences come from dreams and a surrealist approach of contradictory juxtapositions, but he also comments on the more mystical aspects of man's existential search in today's technological reality.

Huff has a MFA from Baton Rouge, Louisiana and he has been teaching ceramics at the

University of Presque Isle since 1981. He has exhibited widely in group and solo shows in the US.

Gallery Connexion is located in the back of the justice building on Queen and York Street in Fredericton; we are open Monday - Friday 12-4pm and Sunday from 2-4pm.

For more information contact 454-1433. Coordinator contact: Ruth Scheuing

YO CABARET!

The Arts Undergraduate Society welcomes all students and faculty to their 5th annual Cabaret which will be held February 11 and 12 at Memorial Hall. According to the Oxford Dictionary, a cabaret is defined as entertainment which takes place in a restaurant while the customers are at their tables. For those who have seen Bob Fosse's film "Cabaret", starring Liza Minnelli, this word conjures up images of Berlin in the 1930's. Since 1983 the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS) at UNB has presented their own Cabaret -- an evening of fine food and entertainment which promises much diversion in an otherwise cold and bleak February.

Music is prominently featured in this year's Cabaret. You'll be serenaded by Jackie Richard's violin and tap your foot to a lively jazz band. Michael Friesen will play some of his material including the piece "Soft Blue Groove" which won this year's UNB Creative Arts Committee New Talent Contest. John Kirkley, a classical guitarist, will sing some soft rock ballads. The Bicentennial Choir under the direction of Stephen Peacock will also present a few appropriate pieces. Jon Weaver and his friends will play some blues-style music, and for those of you who love a little rock - n - roll, Lemonade should make you happy.

Good food, fine entertainment, and a romantic atmosphere - it's a great combination that's particularly appropriate for St. Valentine's Day. This year's Cabaret will be held on the 11th and 12th of February; the doors will open at 7:00 P.M.. A limited number of tickets are available and can be purchased at the SUB from 11:30 - 1:30, February 5 - 12. The prices are \$4.00 for AUS members, \$5.00 for non-members. If you are unable to buy your ticket at this time, you may do so by calling Tina Thanisch (454-3033), Steve Reid (453-1344), or Nadia Lalla (454-3259). If all else fails, you can buy a ticket at the door.

As part of the celebration of St. Valentine's Day, door prizes will be offered including dinner for two at one of Fredericton's restaurants. Come to our Cabaret - it's a great way to celebrate Valentine's Day!

NADIA J. LALLA

ARTS DIARY

1988 EXHIBITION PROGRAMME

UNB ART CENTRE

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| January 4 - February 8 | HAWKINS IN BARBIZON -9 oils and watercolours of 1882 from the Owens Collection of Mount Allison University |
| January 10 - January 24
(opening Jan 10 2-4 p.m.) | NEW TALENT -Poetry, Visual Arts, music Composition by full-time UNB and STU Students; a project with the Creative Arts Committee |
| January 26 - February 3 | Molly Bobak's New Silkscreen Print and Some Others "The Ball" by Molly Lamb Bobak with preliminary sketches and colour separations, together with similar serigraph prints by the Bobaks. |
| February 12 - March 15
(opening Feb 12, 7:30 p.m.) | THE MOOSEHEAD PRESS, 10 YEARS 1977 -1987 , curated by George Winton of Winnipeg to coincide with the Umholtz exhibition at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery; Umholtz is director and principal printmaker of the Moosehead Press |
| February 21 - February 28
February 26 - February 28 | Mid-winter Break (gallery does not close)
Chen: Chinese painting exhibition and workshop |
| March 21 - March 31 | CANADA COUNCIL ART BANK Touring Exhibition and Loan |
| April 1 - April 4 | Easter Weekend |
| April | New Brunswick Painters |
| April 29 - April 30 | Craft Show sets up |
| May 1 - May 20.
(opening Sun May 1 2-4 p.m.) | Biennale 88 - The Juried Professional of the New Brunswick Craft Council; first showing of the touring exhibit |
| May 23 | Encaenia |
| May 23 - August 31 | ACQUISITION 87 - 88 , paintings, prints and drawings purchased and donated for the UNB Fine Arts Collection |
| May 23 - August 8 | From the Collection: An Intern-curated project |
| August 15 - September | UPFRONT: Art on Atlantic Book Covers 15 works, posters and catalogues; touring by Mount St Vincent Gallery, Halifax |
| September - 30 | Annual STUDENT PRINT LOAN ; pickup Friday September 30, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. |
| October (tentative) | COMPUTER ART: A Project devised by Dr. Colin Ware of the UNB Computer Centre and Artists Toby Graser and Rick Burns |
| November | PAINTINGS BY STEPHEN MAY of Fredericton; an exhibition show also in Ontario |
| November | Annual CHRISTMAS CHOICE 88 |