



Diverse drawings featured in art

Drawings — Selected Works by Graduating BFA Students
FAB Gallery
Ends March 22

review by Tina Cristini

To some, drawing is the essence of art. This seems to be the rationale behind the second exhibition at the newly opened Fine Arts Building Gallery, which features selected drawings from the Bachelor of Fine Arts graduating class.

"For most artists, regardless of the discipline, drawing is the most immediate form of expression. It's the simplest, it requires the least in terms of materials. A drawing can begin with a line or a smudge and it can end with a line or a smudge." That is the importance of the drawing medium, according to Art and Design Department chairman, Rick Chenier.

"Drawing is a way of communicating one's expressive thoughts very quickly and with the least amount of effort," states Chenier. "I think that's important because often drawings tend to be so spontaneous and so immediate that they also tend to be the most direct access to the way the artist thinks. And often they are the most beautiful, perhaps because of their simplicity."

The 31 drawings in the show were chosen from among 71 works by a curatorial committee comprised of departmental staff. While in the process of judging the material, this committee decided to make visible their

support of drawing as a discipline in its own right by introducing an Achievement Award for the first time.

This year the award of \$300 worth of supplies from the departmental Art Store was conferred to Brenda Petays. Her mixed-media work, a combination of collage and charcoal drawing on paper, caught the committee's attention as being of superior quality.

The other 30 works also provide a very exciting show, surprisingly colorful for a collection of drawings.

Marie Clifford's "A Cartesian Catharsis" is a very expressive self-portrait in charcoal on paper. The "Untitled" piece by Renee Raroi in pastel and conte on paper shows two figures, one female and one male, wrapped in a shroud of mystery. Another interesting "Untitled" charcoal sketch depicts a sitting female in a thinking position. The artist is Carolyn Webb.

Cecile Steudel's "Untitled" work, a pastel drawing showing a young man leaning on the sink of a public washroom, has a very gentle quality about it. Dawn McLean's nude "Figure" is quite striking and savage-looking. A graphite on paper drawing by Joan Dymianiw called "His and Hers" is a really fun piece, as it shows two people's gazes meeting — perhaps falling in love?

As far as styles represented in this drawing exhibition, Rick Chenier says, "It's quite diverse. We have a number of figurative pieces, as well as abstract pieces. And we have

all kinds of media — everything from charcoal, to pencil line, to pastel."

This show is a must for all art aficionados, as drawing is the basis for all art. Gallery hours are: Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

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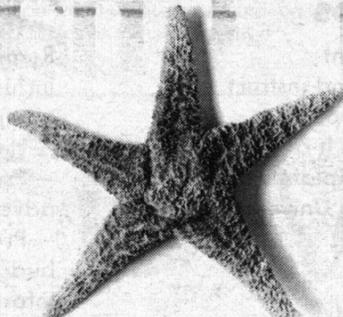
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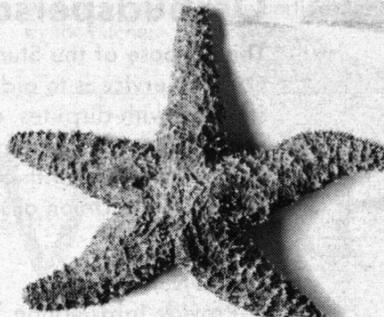
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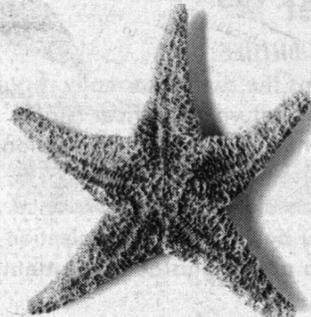
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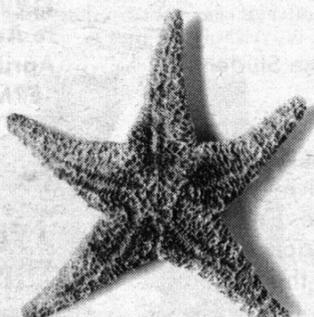
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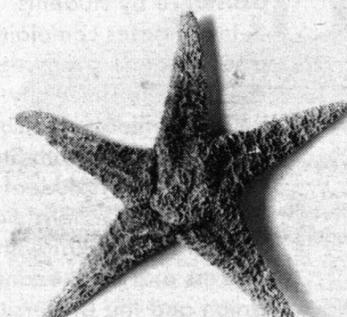
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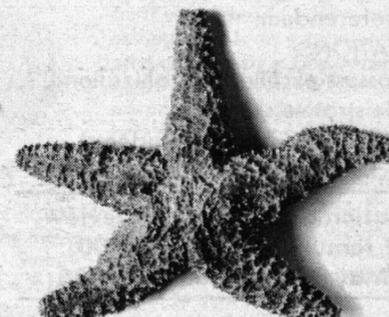
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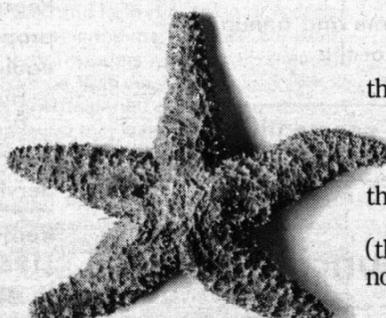
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