



STAR // Gustavo Vasquez

The University Art Gallery served as venue to showcase the works of four sculptors for "The Third Dimension."

Art gallery displays the abstract, the unique

ALYSSA JAMES
Staff Writer

Laughter and chatter fill the air as gallery-goers get their first glance at "The Third Dimension" art exhibit currently on display in the University Art Gallery. This display features four sculptors from both the Bay Area and New Mexico. Each artist has their own unique and very different style, yet are similar in the way that they all love to create sculptures and abstract pieces of art.

Shawn HibmaCronan's creations are all car-like mobile devices that vary in size and are made out of many different materials such as wood, steel and reclaimed objects. The feature piece of his collection is a 1963 Ford Falcon Deluxe Club Wagon that he completely re-designed and remodeled into a futuristic metallic van which includes newly installed hydraulics as well as modern customized features throughout.

HibmaCronan demonstrated the hydraulics during the show, which lifted the van up and down almost touching the ground with the bumpers. In his words on his website, he explains why he chose this particular car to reconstruct. He said, "Inspired by our nation's ongoing romance with automobiles, this work aims to connect a surviving artifact of 1960's idealistic Americana with the elements and gestures of a contemporary "customize everything" subculture."

A smaller piece of his, called "Escape Vehicle," is made out of a wooden school desk with four bicycle wheels attached to each leg of the desk. "Air Ride Chair" is a slightly bigger and bulkier vehicle made out of steel, airbags, bamboo, copper and thick wheels. It is designed for the rider to lie back as if relaxing on a recliner and has hydraulics as well as a gas tank on the back for mobility.

The last of his pieces on display in the gallery is called "Angler." This device has two larger wheels on the front and two smaller wheels on the back with a chain of wood wrapped around connecting the two. It also uniquely features a light bulb that is attached to the base and hangs from the top.

When asked what inspired him to create these specific kinds of sculptures, HibmaCronan said, "I've always been completely interested in cars, obviously, not only just the fastest, best-looking or most expensive cars, that's not really that exciting. It's more of the car culture side of it. Like the weird things people do to their cars as a fashion statement. People write things off so easily like 'oh it's just a car thing' when there's so much craft, effort, attention to detail and love that go into these things. I'm trying to bring that out in my work just the same way that I address my other sculptures."

Ann Weber, another artist, had work that consisted of sizeable and shapely sculptures all made out of woven pieces of cardboard stapled together to form intriguing standing and hanging shapes. The pod-like structures all represent something important to her in her life and that is where they get their names.

"I feel like every sculpture references something or someone that was important to me in my life, (the hanging structures) are called 'Float and Sting' and they are the description of Muhammad Ali, the great boxer. He coined this phrase: 'I float like a butterfly and sting like a bee.' Ali had a really big influence on people of my generation."

Weber stated that she was born in 1950 and Muhammad Ali was one of the first great athletes who really owned the sport and made black power a really important thing.

Her other enormous standing structures have an important meaning to her as well. Two of Weber's gigantic leaning pieces that towered over everything in the gallery are called "Almost Sixteen" and were created in 2001.

"They are about a lot of different things — my daughter was just turning sixteen, so that was sort of a rocky period for her. I feel like I'm interested in making things that are about balancing acts because we're always balancing our schoolwork, jobs, families and personal lives. After 9/11 it was also a time when we started seeing that kind of architecture coming out of the Middle East, so that also had an influence on me."

Walter Robinson is a San Francisco artist who creates eye-catching abstract art that makes people think. His statement is: "Working in a range of materials— wood, epoxy, metal, and found materials— I hand-fabricate and assemble objects, signage and tableaux that investigate the mechanics of cultural and social anthropology. Using text and the strategies of appropriation, conflation, and dislocation, I uncover the subconscious and biological human imperatives hidden beneath social, political, religious and capitalist packaging."

His pieces on display included a miniature paddle boat with small cargo shipping boxes. Each box was a different color that stacked high, entitled "Fruits de Mer." There was a vintage square clock with a metal horse on top that has Homer Simpson as the upper half of the body, called "Speed." Lastly, a gaunt red dog peering into a colorful megaphone with a vulture sitting on top staring down, called "Master's Voice."

The fourth artist featured is Chris Thorson, whose work consists of creating objects that one would see in everyday life out of various different materials. He meticulously arranges and places them in specific areas for a dramatic effect. For one of his sculptures, called "Chameleons," he created old beat up television remotes out of oil and mixed media on hydrocal and mounted them.

Another piece of his, called "Bro Palace," consists of what looks like dirty, rolled up socks placed in a corner, but the socks are actually molded plaster. Some other objects that he has constructed for his art are gloves, shirts, cigarettes, plastic bags, chewed gum and fruit. If one doesn't look close enough, he or she might not realize that these hyper realistic objects have been fabricated to look as though they are the real thing.

Each of these four artists bring different and intriguing styles to this show. It's certainly worth your time to stop in to the gallery and spend a moment experiencing this incredible collection of abstract art. It will only be on display at Sonoma State until October 12, so make sure you get a chance to see it before it's gone!

FLUFFY: Funny act kept active crowd

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finally his time to perform. He introduced himself and then responded to his warm welcome.

"How's everyone on the lawn," asked Iglesias. After a booming response from the packed grass seat he returned, "next time buy your tickets sooner."

Iglesias' act was approximately 30 minutes longer than originally intended, which can be attributed to the way he delivers his jokes. Instead of using cliché one-liners in his act, fluffy tells stories. Iglesias does not write or practice his show off-stage; he just uses what he remembers.

Iglesias shared one story about an old practical joke he played on his fellow comedian and friend, G Reilly. Since Reilly is African American, Iglesias and Moreno thought it would be funny if they prepared a racist gift basket for him. This meant he would include items that related to numerous African American stereotypes. After receiving the basket anonymously, Reilly was in fact thrilled with the gifts he found, until realizing it was all a joke.

This same story was shared on an old comedy special he had, and ever since then he would receive his own personal Mexican racist gift baskets at his shows from fans.

While he thought it was funny, this is not the first time his stories have caught up to him. Ever since he mentioned the fact the he loved chocolate cake during a special he had years ago, Fluffy started to receive 40-50 chocolate cakes per week from his admirers. However, due to the fact that he is diabetic, Iglesias only puts one finger in each cake, at least so he can get a taste.

Fluffy looked confused at the end of his act, and he admitted he didn't

know how to end his show. That's when the crowd began shouting suggestions of old jokes of his made famous from previous stand-up specials. As a result, Iglesias recited three of his most famous jokes, with most of the crowd finishing them for him.

"Who would have thought I would end up in Sonoma County playing comedy karaoke," said Iglesias.

The comedian was able to demonstrate why he is such a like-able character during his prolonged act. With a mention of an autism-awareness foundations he is beginning and tales of his generous donations he's made to kids in need, it's apparent that Fluffy is much more than just the large funny-man we see on TV.



COURTESY // Will Bucquoy

Iglesias' act at Weill Hall was approximately 30 minutes longer than originally planned thanks to the roaring support from the crowd.



STAR // Maud Bussion

Lobo's Pizza and Pub was packed with students performing and watching on Wednesday night.

Talented students pack Lobo's

SIERRA SMITH
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There is no event that makes Lobo's Pizza and Pub more packed than Live at Lobo's: Open Mic Night event. The first Open Mic Night of the school year debuted on Wednesday. Originally an Associated Student Productions event held at the Sonoma State's old pizza venue, Ameci's Pizza, Open Mic Night has been a tradition on the SSU campus for years. Open Mic Night is an opportunity for students to expose and explore their talents ranging from singing, stand-up comedy, playing the guitar and reciting poems.

For the first Open Mic Night, a comedic stand-up performance by Camila Vasquez opened the show followed by students singing their own original songs and acoustic covers.

With a lineup that consisted of nine performances, Lobo's was packed to the brim. Students lined the aisles of every table and pressed into every open seat; an impressive audience for an event held in the middle of the week.

With supporters for every performer cheering in the crowd, it was refreshing to see what kind of talent the students at Sonoma State could bring to the campus. The excitement in the air was contagious, with every

student grinning ear to ear, singing along and nodding their heads to the beat of their favorite songs.

At the beginning of each act, it was remarkable to see how each student prepared themselves for what they signed up to do in front of a large crowd composed of their peers. Some seemed at ease while others fidgeted with the strings on their guitars before taking a stand before their audience.

For sociology major Abel Cooper, deciding to sing in front of the crowd only 2 hours before the event began was probably the best preparation for his performance. "I was a little nervous, but I'm excited I actually went through with it."

The crowd roared with applause after he finished singing covers of "Waiting on an Angel," by Ben Harper and "Latch," by Sam Smith. Although Cooper was a bit apprehensive about performing in front of an unexpectedly large crowd, it was not his first time performing in front of an audience.

"I've been singing jazz since I was 9 years old, and I was also in jazz choir in high school," said Cooper. "My entire family is pretty musical too, but my older brother Casey is my biggest inspiration."

With Cooper playing guitar for only about a year, it was clear that he wowed the audience with their immaculate cheering and excited

screams from his friends.

Early Childhood Development major Shelby Green was just as amazed by Cooper and other performances by Dan Simon, Colin Chinn, and Rosa Martinez. It was her very first time at an Open Mic Night event and was pleasantly surprised by the turnout. "This is so awesome," Green said. "I think the campus should support the arts more often with events like this."

Although every performance was impressive in her eyes, Green's favorite performer was SSU student and YouTuber commonly known as "Seabass." "Every time he sings, you can just hear the passion in his voice," she said. "I also saw him perform at last year's Pacific Culture Night, hosted by FAASU," Green said.

After a couple hours of incredible performances by nine very talented students, the audience at Lobo's was left with a light aura of comfort and contentment with each student's voice filling their ears.

Other familiar songs such as "Treasure," by Bruno Mars and "That's What You Get," by Paramore echoed throughout Lobo's and left the night one for the books.

Live at Lobo's: Open Mic Night happens every first and third Wednesday of the month, so if you missed this one be sure to go to the next one on Sept. 17.