

Art gallery features trashy chic at university exhibit

By Lorren Koppelman

COM 225 Reporter

<http://www.csuohio.edu/class/com/clevelandstater/Archives/Vol%2011/Issue%202/NEWS3.html>

If you're planning to throw out all the items in your kitchen's junk drawer, hold that thought. One person's trash may be another person's art.

The Art Gallery at Cleveland State University is now featuring two new exhibitions that turn the tables on what is conventionally considered to be art.

"Object Lesson", located in Gallery C, offers a collection of Readymade Art created by three Ohio artists, Joan "of Art" Deveney of Collinwood, Tim Haas of Newbury, and Nick R. Square of Madison. Readymade Art refers to artwork that is created from found items, which can be just about anything.

"On the Other Side", located in the Main Gallery displays paintings and sculptures by four multicultural artists, Tracy Heneberger of Beijing, China, Yong Han of Korea, Kam Shun Lee of Mainland China, and Andrzej Siwkiewicz of Poland. The exhibit explores how viewers look at the artwork from a different point of view than the artist.

Both exhibitions will be on display through June 27.

Walking into Gallery C, the viewer is met with an array of colors, all of which are coming from "Object Lesson".□

Once in the hands of the artists, these simple items are transformed into unique and dynamic pieces.

One creation seen in the exhibit is Weenie Piece/First Greek Book by Nick R. Square. This unique piece combines what appears to be an assortment of bracelets and other large rings, with a stack of books, and the base of what may have once been a light of some sort.

Robert Thurmer, the art gallery director, explains that the artists' multicultural backgrounds play an important role in how their artwork is translated. The dynamic sculptures and vibrant paintings embody many similarities, and yet they are uniquely different from one another.

According to Thurmer, the gallery puts on about five major shows per year and numerous smaller shows—most of which display works from local and regional artists.

The Art Gallery at CSU is located on Chester Avenue in the Art Building. Students also can visit the website at www.csuohio.edu/artgallery for a schedule of upcoming exhibitions and hours of operation.

The Art Gallery at CSU also offers guided tours, group visits, and student workshops.

Gallery exhibitions are free of charge. The exhibits will be on display until June 27.