

| Critic's pick |

'Body Anxious'



A carrot, fabric and sewing pins on a mirror make up this piece from Diana Falchuk's "Sweet Returns" series. It features tiny sculptures made from aged, manipulated food, flower parts and fibers. Her work will be part of the "Body Anxious" exhibit.

There is a darkish side to Americans' infatuations with their bodies — that is, the eventual deterioration of all living organisms — that we often try to avoid inspecting. Curator Jesse Levesque has caught it with her selection of artists and her title, "Body Anxious," for an exhibit that opens Friday at the Cressman Center for Visual Arts, 100 E. Main St.

The show features a moving and disturbing cast of artists, including the international hyper-realist painter and high-life art star Gottfried Helnwein of Ireland and the unpretentious, almost clinical print-maker, German-born American Kiki Smith of New York City. Others in the show include Cristin Millet of Philadelphia, Diana Falchuk of Seattle, Japanese-born Chiharu Shiota of Berlin and James R. Southard of Louisville. All have an interest in the transience of life and its cultural mysteries.

A free talk at 6 p.m. Friday by Falchuk precedes the reception from 7 to 9 p.m. "Body Anxious" ends Aug. 25. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

— Diane Heilenman,
visual arts critic



Falchuk's "Untitled (Octo Flower)" is made of an octopus tentacle, flower, corn cob, nail polish and glue on a mirror.