

BLURRING THE LINES / EXHIBIT BRIDGES DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PEOPLE

By MARSHA GILBERT Staff Writer, (609) 272-7203

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- ART EXHIBIT _ 'Crossing Boundaries' to July 8 at Noyes Museum of Art, Galloway Township. Opening reception from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday. Admission \$4. Call (609) 652-8848. (Hearing, speech impaired, call (800) 852-7899).

You wouldn't think a photograph of dead fish; a funeral wreath made from fake flowers covered in paint, glue and flour; and clay images of women's body parts would be featured in a southern New Jersey art exhibit. But these are some of the images and art forms used in the "Crossing Boundaries" exhibit now at the Noyes Museum of Art. The purpose of these and other images is to blur differences between people. Lines between artistic styles overlap as well in this show held at the picturesque museum on Lily Lake Road, off Route 9, in Oceanville.

"Crossing Boundaries" features the work of 24 New Jersey artists - selected from 180 entries - and attempts to break down things that separate people, such as politics, culture and gender.

Southern New Jersey is represented by 10 of the artists, including Marilyn Brent of Linwood, who entered an oil painting titled "Dune on the Beach in Atlantic City." Its menacing shadow and deserted sand dune is mysterious and calls for a second look.

"The New Jersey Arts Annual: Crossing Boundaries, Fine Art Exhibition" runs until July 8. The opening reception is 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday.

Hsiao-Ning Tu, curator of collections and exhibitions at the museum, who recently immigrated to the United States from Taiwan, relates the artwork to her own experiences.

"I crossed quite a few boundaries before I arrived at the Noyes Museum of Art 10 months ago," said Tu, who also lived in New York. Now she embraces cultural and intellectual barriers that were once difficult to cross instead of turning away from them, she said.

Tu chose the works in the show, along with Fred B. Adelson, professor of art history at Rowan University in Glassboro and art critic for The New York Times "to make people think about looking beyond bridges that might separate groups and to unify them," she said.

The show presents works in different media by artists living or working in New Jersey. They range in age from 27 to 77. In addition to Brent, they are: Robert Naderson, Herbert Appelson, Virginia S. Block, Catherine Borg, Caroline Burton, Pam Cooper, Annette DeFeo, Carson Fox, James Greenwell, Ellen Hanauer, Frederick Herr, Susan Hockaday, Jean Kaweck, Barbara Klein, Mel Leipzig, Megan Maloy, Charles McVicker, Inga Pickering, Roslyn Rose, Jody Servon, Sheba Sharrow, William Skrips and Carolyn Stelatella.

Saturday's reception will include refreshments, a slide presentation and sketchbook-sharing by artists Hanauer, Sharrow and Skrips. Other exhibiting artists will be on hand to explain the message behind their work, Tu said.

The exhibition is co-sponsored by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Jersey City Museum, The Montclair Art Museum, the Morris Museum, the Newark Museum, the New Jersey State Museum and the Noyes Museum of Art.

Admission is \$4. For more information about the exhibition or to make reservations call the museum at (609) 652-8848. The hearing or speech impaired can call through the NJ Relay Service at (800) 852-7899.

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