

Soft sculptures reflect artist's involvement

By Sara Barchus

Soft sculptures, most made of cloth, are being exhibited by Lou Ann Musinski in the Sheldon Gallery Art Shop through Oct. 10.

"This show represents four years of serious involvement," Musinski said. "I sent examples of series, selecting pieces that would show a bit more of myself than one or two phases."

After graduating from the Chicago Art Institute in

1969, she became a ceramics and foundations instructor at Oak Park and River Forest High School in Oak Park, Ill.

She said she was accustomed to creating soft-looking forms out of hard material, but the kiln at the high school was not large enough to accommodate her work. She searched for another medium and found people were experimenting in soft sculpture.

Musinski said she had never sewn and went through a long trial and error process to learn.

Although she is frightened by snakes and other reptiles, Musinski has a whimsical obsession with salamanders. "They keep coming up as a three-dimensional vehicle. They are so quizzical that I can do a lot with them."

Salamander pieces

Some of the salamander-oriented pieces in the show are: "Salamander Jumping Through a Cloud," "Conversation Over a Garden," "Flying Salamander," "Salamander Jewel Box" and "Bleached Salamander."

For a long time her interest in salamanders was restricted to observations in northern Minnesota.

Then I realized that other people were involved with salamanders, too, she said. "When we were in Mexico we bought a mask of an elephant with a salamander crawling down its face. Now I realize what unusual people there are that are interested in the form of the salamander," she said.

Although she likes salamanders, Musinski said she would not keep one as a pet because they are too illusive. Musinski said she believes it is the creative process, not the product, that is important.

"My work is the ordering of my subconscious. It is me, not fabricated." She documents her life through the things she collects and she then puts them together.

A large quilted piece is included in her show. It is her latest large piece and is entitled "Patou Times Two." She claims her quilts have nothing to do with the bed and thinks they will evolve into large fabric paintings.

"Patou Times Two" represents the same subject in two-dimensional and three-dimensional terms, while also interpreting the subject—an overcoat—in a realistic and fanciful form.

No television

Musinski said her perceptions of things have been influenced by not viewing television until college.

She said, "I escaped television, for that I am grateful. It gives too little opportunity to look. Everything is seen through the cameraman's eyes, not your own. It is a case of someone telling you what to see."

Musinski's "Picasso Who" is different from her other pieces on display. Pablo Picasso's painting, "Three Musicians", has been taken from its two-dimensional surface and made as three-dimensional.

"When I was trying to figure out what to do with the backside of the musicians, (because Picasso did not provide a view of their backs). I dreamt that Picasso and I spoke about what to do with the forms... "It seemed to help," she said.

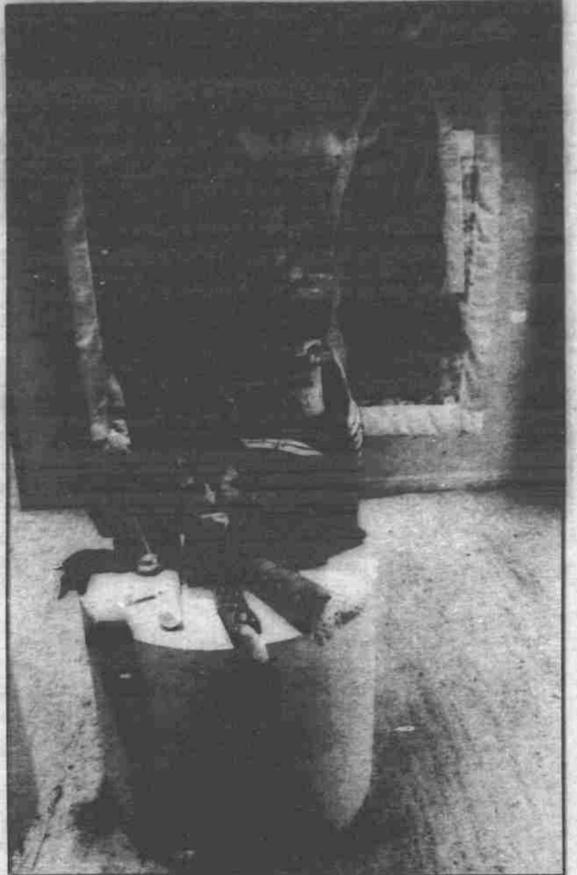


Photo by Kevin Higley
Picasso Who and Patou Times Two... soft art by Lou Ann Musinski on display at Sheldon.

Movies

Stuart: *Silent Movie* (PG)—1:30, 3:30, 5:30 and 9:30 p.m.

State: *Alice in Wonderland* (X)—7:30 and 9:20 p.m.

Cooper-Lincoln: *Jaws* (PG)—7:30 and 9:50 p.m.

Cooper-Lincoln: *Midnight Movie Jesus Christ Superstar* (PG)—midnight.

Plaza 1: *The Shootist* (PG)—1:45, 3:40, 5:35, 7:30 and 9:25 p.m.

Plaza 2: *Embryo* (PG)—3:45, 5:30, 7:20 and 9:10 p.m.

Plaza 3: *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (PG)—3:15, 6:30 and 9:45 p.m.

Plaza 3: *The Groove Tube* (R)—1:45, 5 and 8:15 p.m.

Plaza 4: *Mustang County* (G)—1:15, 2:50, 4:25, 6, 7:40 and 9:20 p.m.

Douglas 1: *Gator* (PG)—5:20, 7:20 and

9:20 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20 and 9:20 p.m.

Douglas 2: *The Omens* (R)—5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Douglas 3: *Drum* (R)—5:40, 7:40 and 9:40 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40 and 9:40 p.m.

Cinema 1: *Murder By Death* (PG)—7:25 and 9:25 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 3:25, 5:35, 7:25 and 9:25 p.m.

Cinema 2: *A Clockwork Orange* (R)—7:00 and 9:25 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at 1:30, 4, 6:30 and 9 p.m.

Sheldon Film Theatre: *Underground* and *The Longest War*—3, 7, and 9 p.m.

Hollywood and Vine: *All the President's Men* (PG)—7 and 9 p.m., *Inserts* (X)—7:30 and 9:45 p.m.

Italian film shows

This week's Foreign Film Series feature will be Lena Wertmuller's *Love and Anarchy*.

The film, released in 1972, is Wertmuller's fifth feature after serving an apprenticeship under Federico Fellini. Wertmuller has emerged as one of the most important Italian directors along with Fellini and Bernardo Bertolucci.

Love and Anarchy is set in Mussolini's Italy and uses stylish direction to tell the story of a young revolutionary and a group of prostitutes.

Showings will be at 7 and 9 p.m. Sunday through Tuesday.

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ADMISSION \$1.00 (PG) **stuart**

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THE OMEN
GREGORY PECK LEE REMICK

DOUGLAS 2 SHOWING AT: 5:40-7:40-9:40

DRUM
WARREN OATES-ISELA VEGA-KEN MORTON

DOUGLAS 3 SHOWING AT: 5:20-7:20-9:20

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