

# Lights, sights of the season



Al Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

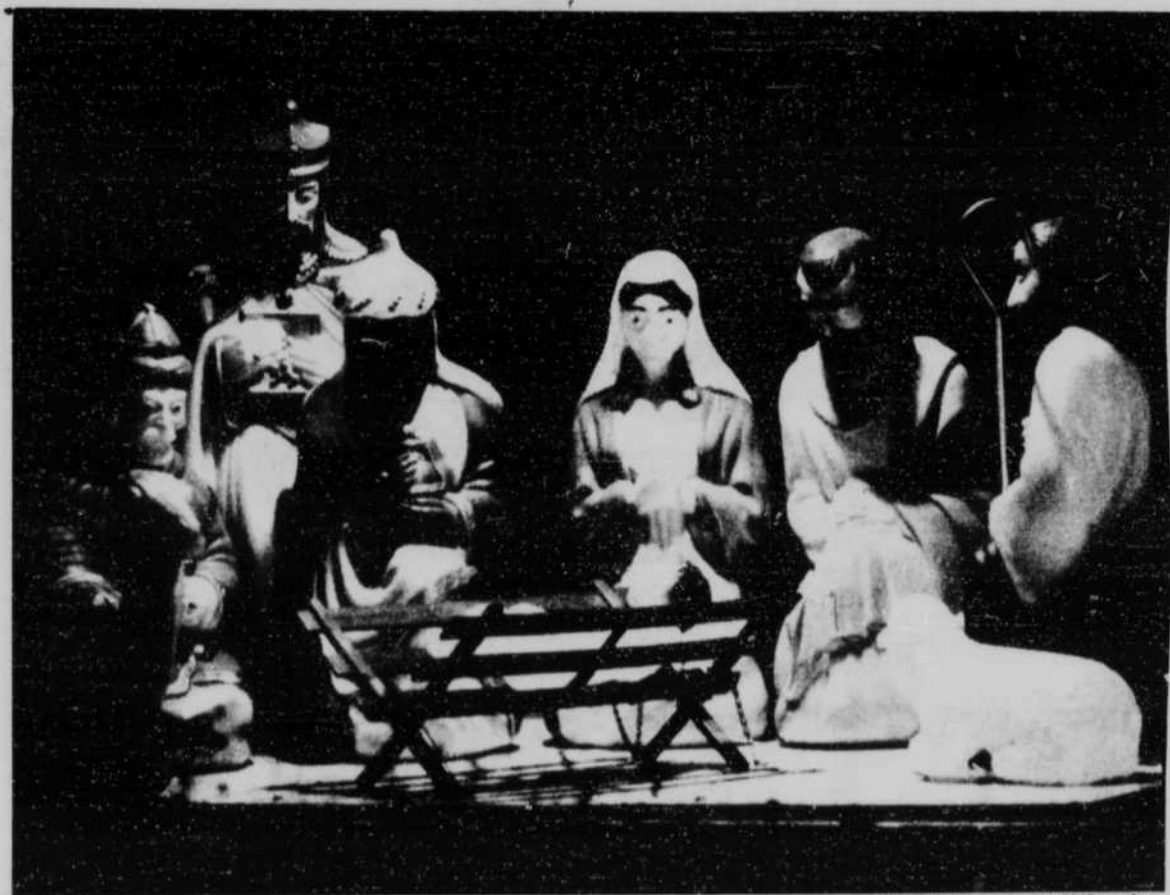


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UNL students Matt Schnase, upper left, and Dan Fosmer, right, show off their room decorations on Abel 12. Above, the Sigma Nu Fraternity House illuminates 16th Street. Lower left, holiday lights decorate this house at 33rd and South streets. Below, this manger scene can be found at 17th and C streets.



David Fahleson/Daily Nebraskan



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## Legs, kangaroos subjects of exhibition

By Gretchen Boehr  
Senior Reporter

Three Master of Fine Arts candidates explore familiar objects, animals and people through their paintings, prints and mixed-media works displayed at the Gallery of the De-

art

partment of Art and Art History.

The MFA exhibition in Richards Hall includes mixed-media works, paintings and print-making by Kate Brooke, Judith Flansburg Burton and Georgia Johnson.

Burton's exhibit, entitled "Still Life as Abstract Structure," includes

simplicistic mono-prints and still-life paintings of familiar objects.

In most of the paintings the tableware, such as a salt or pepper shaker, uses soft colors to create a thoughtful and playful mood.

Yet some of her larger works, such as "Hello San Antonio," use dark colors and evoke dark, brooding emotion.

But Burton's mono-prints highlight her exhibition. The roughness and simplicity of color gives the prints a certain charm.

In the gallery's second room, legs are the subject matter chosen by Johnson in her mixed media drawings which capture the power of body language in communicating feelings and emotions.

Through different isolated poses of legs, Johnson challenges viewers to ask whether a cropped view of the figure is enough to communicate an idea or attitude.

Different textures, colors and positions relate powerful emotions as well as meek personalities.

From the primness of "Wallflower" to the innocence of "This Little Piggy," Johnson communicates human emotions through legs and feet, which proves to be surprisingly honest and revealing.

Each drawing was created by building and removing layers of oil pastel and oil paint on paper or canvas.

The subject matter chosen by the third artist is reminiscent of her life as

a small child in Nigeria.

Brooke's exhibition, entitled "Re-membering," uses layers of pen and ink and relief stamps to record cycles of human memory.

The work includes giraffes, kangaroos and other animals, which sometimes looks like something from an old, prairie schoolhouse or children's textbooks of years gone by.

Brooke said she layers images to suggest an emergence of pattern in understanding and experience.

As children, Brooke and her brother played with plastic animal toys and each animal had its own function and personality, she said. According to Brooke, she remembers this and expands on the notion of animals with personalities in her

work.

"Remembering is more of a current activity that allows material from the past to play an active part in the present," Brooke said.

An intaglio print, "and giraffes don't..." captures a childlike fascination with animals and their way of talking to each other.

The MFA Exhibition features a variety of styles as three artists express themselves through very different subjects. Brooke and Johnson, in particular, seem to be saying something about the way people or animals communicate.

The artists' works will be on display at the gallery until Thursday. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.