

Joslyn to show off new renovations

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

After eight years of planning and \$16 million for renovations and new construction, Omaha's Joslyn Art Museum is ready to welcome its patrons to a new era.

The museum will celebrate its grand opening this weekend.

The Joslyn building was built between 1929 and 1931 as a concert hall. With the addition of galleries and lecture facilities in the 1950s and 1960s, it eventually turned into the Joslyn Society of Liberal Arts. In the late 1970s, the building adopted the identity of an art museum and took on the name Joslyn Art Museum.

In the mid-1980s, the board of directors came up with a long-range plan to define the museum's mission and to expand the facilities.

Director Graham W.J. Beal said that when he arrived in 1989 he started to improve Joslyn's programming and moved toward focusing on renovations.

He said he looked at everything — from the cubic footage needed for the female security officers' purses to choosing an architect to design the museum's addition.

Beal chose Sir Norman Foster, a world-renowned British architect. Beal said he wanted the addition to be the model of how museums should be built.

"We felt challenged to rethink what the experience of looking was all about," he said.

He said the new building would complement the existing buildings on the outside, but it would have a revolutionary new inside.

The galleries within existing buildings became smaller as one walked through, but the new addition features 14,000 square feet of seven new galleries that, as one walks through, "explode upward."

"Foster wanted to save all the magic for the inside," he said.

Beal said he hoped the new addition and renovations would add an element of surprise to the museum.

"What I've always wanted to do as a museum is to have an institution

"I want people to come here with expectations and have those expectations changed."

GRAHAM W.J. BEAL

Director

that follows the highest professional, educational and philosophical standards," he said, "but still be capable of surprising people and making them come back."

"It's not hard to make people come back to Disney World, because it's a gratifying experience. I want people to come here with expectations and have those expectations changed."

The Joslyn Art Museum should be as far removed from being high-brow, Beal said, without destroying the museum's serious purpose to make people examine art.

Beal said he was looking at ways to make the museum more accessible by offering brochures that explained individual art works and acoustic, guided tours.

But all renovations are done for now.

"This is our stage now, and we have to learn how to use it," Beal said. "We can no longer complain we don't have this facility or that facility."

Because the building stage of the plan is finished, Beal said he would start to focus on the programming and acquisition of exhibits.

"We have an edifice complex in our country. We have to remember the museum is the collection, not the building," he said.

The new Joslyn Art Museum, at 2200 Dodge St. in Omaha, will open to the public at 9:45 a.m. Saturday with a special outdoor ceremony.

Two exhibits opening in conjunction with the museum are "Contemporary Navajo Weaving: The Gloria F. Ross Collection of the Denver Art Museum" and the Joslyn-organized show "Birth of a Building."



Travis Hoying/DN

Singer Craig Korth, right, and guitarist Doug Agne of the band No Left Stone, rehearse for an upcoming show. The band is having a CD release show Saturday at The Hurricane, 1118 O St.

No Left Stone plans winter tour, album release party at Hurricane

By Joel Strauch
Senior Reporter

Lincoln sensation No Left Stone is turning out its new album, "The Weaver Festival Phenomenon," this weekend at The Hurricane, 118 O St.

Chris Sommerich, the band's bassist and a University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate, said, "This album represents us a lot better than the first one ('Exaltation Station') did."

"We've been playing together for two and a half years now, and we've done over 150 live shows. The songwriting is better, and it just sounds better."

No Left Stone recorded this album with Big Fish Studios in Omaha and released it on Ammo, Big Fish's new label.

"We worked really well with them," Sommerich said. "We're the first band on this label. It is really good for the both of us."

Sommerich said that Big Fish

helped the band's percussion sound on the new album.

"The hardest thing to make a local band sound good is the drums," he said. "Our performance was good and the drums sound great."

The new label also does not infringe on the band's independence.

"Through Ammo we have been able to retain our own autonomy," he said. "We financed everything ourselves."

The album title is taken from a short story by a Japanese author. The story's plot dealt with a lot of things that are on the album, Sommerich said.

"It's a story about ghosts and bridges and stuff like that," he said.

"It's a really cool story."

No Left Stone also is starting up a radio campaign with the new CD.

"This guy in Austin, Texas is helping us out," Sommerich said. "We'll be on college radio stations throughout the Midwest and on the coasts."

Quik Facts

Show: No Left Stone CD release party

At: The Hurricane, 1118 O St.

Time: 9:30 p.m. Saturday

Tickets: \$3, free with purchase of \$10 CD

The band is planning to tour with the release of the new album, but not until the beginning of next semester.

"There is always a big turnover of DJ's at college radio stations, and we need to work with them," Sommerich said.

"We have a few shows in December, but around January or February, we'll start to hit the road pretty hard," he said. "If the record does well in specific towns, we'll make sure to hit those. We've been expanding our tour base over the last couple of years."

Artists to sell work at show; proceeds to be used at hospital

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

Artists from nine states will display and sell their works at the 16th annual Arts in General show today through Sunday at Lincoln General Hospital.

The show will feature more than 10 different art forms, including oil painting and brick sculpture, according to Lou Canney, Arts in General chairwoman. The artwork will be sold during a silent auction.

Limited-edition prints by Neal Anderson will be featured. Anderson is a two-time winner of the Federal Duck Stamp contest. His paintings have been featured on two U.S. stamps.

Also featured will be sculptures by Jay Tschetter. He created "Iron Horse Legacy," a brick sculpture of a train located outside the Amtrak station in the Haymarket.

The show will have a raffle for two coach airline tickets to any destination in the continental United States. Other prizes include various pieces of artwork, floral arrangements from local florists and framing certificates from local frame shops.

Canney said the show benefited everyone.

"It promotes goodwill and interest from the community and the hospital," she said. "The monies go to enhance patient care at Lincoln General."

The show is open today from 1:30 to 4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The show is located on the sixth floor of the hospital. Admission and parking are free.

Event kicks off holidays

By Sean McCarthy
Staff Reporter

Greenery and Christmas lights will decorate the Haymarket streets this weekend to usher in the holiday season.

Free foods, store demonstrations and music performers also will be a part of the Haymarket's second annual "Holidays in the Haymarket" festival.

Sponsored by The Haymarket Business Representative Council, the event will include most of the stores in the Haymarket. Each store involved in the event will offer either special sales on their items or free demonstrations.

Friday night's main attraction will feature a gallery walk for all art galleries in the Haymarket. Galleries that ordinarily would close at 5 p.m. will be open until 9:30 p.m. for the walk.

The walk will give galleries a chance to open their new exhibitions. Stores surrounding the galleries also will be open for the walk.

"This is a chance for people to go to six or seven galleries all within a walking distance," said Julia Noyes, owner of the Noyes Art Gallery.

The galleries will continue to have open houses and demonstrations throughout the weekend. The Haydon Gallery will give patrons a chance to make their own holiday

cards and gift wrap from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday. Lois Meysenburg, an artist at the Noyes Art Gallery, will offer free painting demonstrations all day on Saturday.

"There's a kind of electricity in the air now," Noyes said. "All of our artists are pumped for this."

Stores in the Haymarket will have their holiday displays out for shoppers. Davison's Gallery and Gifts, Wordsmith Books and Art and From Nebraska are some of the stores that will offer free gift-wrapping.

Other stores in the Haymarket will offer free demonstrations. Christmas Lane will offer free craft demonstrations from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, and The Flicker Shoppe will have free candle-making demonstrations from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Ann Pagel, co-chair of the event, said all businesses in the Haymarket had been helpful.

The event, first held last year, drew a positive response, Pagel said. She said this year's event would depart from last year, because more performing artists would be featured.

Choirs from three of Lincoln's middle schools (Mickle, Lefler and Pound) will sing on Saturday at the Ramada Hotel.

The melodrama "She Was Only A Farmer's Daughter" will be performed Saturday and Sunday at Barry's Outback at 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Generations

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Spinner and Stewart are exceptional. Stewart's remorseful lamenting of the loss of his brother and nephew is the movie's Oscar clip.

The special effects are simply out of this world. The nexus is superbly done, and it is quite a sight to see shock waves wash through planets. The battle with the Klingon bird of

prey and what follows make for 15 minutes of heaven.

But the whole nexus thing doesn't make sense. Supposedly, Picard can leave the nexus at any time and go wherever and whenever he wants. Even if he couldn't stop Soran, he could have just popped back in and out of the nexus to try again. He doesn't even need Kirk (but the movie's billing does).

Despite some inconsistencies, "Generations" is great and a must-see for Trekkies and normal humans.

Books

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It is a highly enjoyable read both as a collection of insider trivia for the fans and as the rags-to-riches story of an actor who happened to be in the right place at the right time.

— Todd Ellington

"Star Trek: Federation"
Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens
Pocketbooks
Grade: A

The plot of "Star Trek: Federation" should have been used for the new film. Unfortunately, it would need both complete crews at the height of their missions and about 20 hours to do it justice.

The Reeves-Stevens know how to tell a story. The book runs in three different parallels.

In the first, Capt. Jean-Luc Picard and the Next Generation crew manages to obtain a piece of a Borg ship that might hold the key to defeating the assimilators and solving the secrets of the universe.

There is also the story of Zephram Cochrane, the inventor of the warp engine, and his role in the expansion of humankind into space.

Cochrane disappears into space and is presumed to have been killed. He is later discovered by Captain James T. Kirk and the original Enterprise crew.

The plots touch on each other continually and climax together in a fantastic ending. It is probably the best story yet that intermingles both Trek generations.

The writing flows well and is easy to follow, even with the inevitable Trekspeak about power transfer conduits and phase adjustment coils.

"Star Trek: Federation" is one of the best Trek tales to come out in a long time. It's the best of both worlds.

— Joel Strauch