

Program mixes art influences

VISUAL from page 11

Her black-and-white photographs show the relationship between people and plants.

The photos of plants in controlled environments, such as gardens and greenhouses, represent humans' attempt to "control" nature.

"Although the natural world has an elaborate system of order, humans have imposed another system of order on the plants that often has very little to do with the original ways of their subjects," she said.

One picture shows two stems of plants tied together in order to influence their direction and shape of growth.

Another photo shows a group of plants in pots. Plants raised in pots still

grow but in a microcosm of the environment a wild plant would grow in.

Next to the photos of people's attempts to control plants are clothing designs by Vince Quevedo, a lecturer in clothing and design. He has pieces scattered throughout the room.

One of his designs is a black jacket-like piece with a colorful strip down the center of the chest.

He said the jacket was inspired by the problems and injustices going on in South Africa.

The colors on the front represent how people will begin to break out of the surrounding "black doom," he said.

Along with Rex, Fritz, Horvay and Quevedo's work will be ceramics by Sandra Williams and unique, full-body clothing-sculptures by Elizabeth

Gallery Preview The Facts



What: Visual Literacy faculty exhibition
Where: Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, Home Economics Building second floor
When: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Cost: free
The Skinny: A wide realm of different art comes together in one exhibit.

Ingraham.

The theory presented in the Visual Literacy Faculty Exhibition is that art, architecture, textiles and clothing share a common point of design: visual imagery.

The variety of work featured in the exhibit is sure to spark diverse visual images in the minds of its viewers.

Show celebrates modern dance

DANCE from page 11

Theatre from 1993 to 97, will present a work for four Omaha dancers.

Also returning to Omaha will be Charlie Livingston along with Jeff Curtis, her dance partner. Livingston is a former Omaha resident who now dances, teaches and tours nationally.

The Moving Company - the University of Nebraska at Omaha's modern dance performing group - will also perform at the concert with a tribute to Isadora Duncan, the woman said to be the mother of modern dance.

According to Bass, Duncan created modern dance as a way to break away from the constraints of ballet.

"Modern dance is more emotional," she said. "Every piece for our show is done barefoot with loose costumes. Ballet has more structured costumes. It's more constraining."

Bass said modern dance was separate from other dance styles when it started, but these days, one can see the influence of other styles on modern dance.

"In our show, we have performances that are influenced by ballet or jazz, some by swing, which is the new thing, and one with a tango flair," she said.

Josie Metal-Corbin, director of UNO's Moving Company, said she decided to use the older 1920s modern dance form because she wanted to honor the woman who changed dance.

"I had a keen interest in honoring a pioneer of modern dance as we move from this century into the next century," she said.

The dances, titled "Waltzes" and "Scherzo," were performed at the UNOmaha Art Gallery in September as part of the "Crossing the Threshold" exhibit. The event featured a national tour of work by women artists born in or before 1928.

New York choreographer Carol Mezzacappa flew to Nebraska for five days to help prepare the 36 dancers, ranging in age from 5 to 70 years old, who will be performing the Duncan pieces.

Bass said the concert showcased

Dance The Facts



What: "Nebraska Dancing"
Where: Lied Education Center, 24th & Cass streets, Omaha
When: Friday and Saturday ay 8 p.m.
Cost: \$12 for general admission, \$8 for seniors and students
The Skinny: A celebration of modern dance throughout the century.

Nebraska talent.

"It is not a professional concert, but it is professional quality," she said. "It is as entertaining and as accessible as any other type of dance."

"We like to call it 'user friendly,' because we find that there is always something to entertain you or touch you or move you. It is emotional art that will touch audience members one way or another."

For more information or ticket reservations, call the Omaha Modern Dance Collective at (402) 551-7473.

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'Boys' disturbing, hard-hitting story

BOYS from page 11

Saturday night at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater as part of the End of the Millennium Gay/Lesbian Film Festival.

The film is the fictional retelling of "The Brandon Teena Story," which has received much attention since its release last year. For those who aren't familiar, Brandon Teena (aka Teena Brandon) was a woman who chose to pass as a man.

While staying in Falls City, two men found out Brandon was really a woman. "Boys Don't Cry" depicts the events leading up to and following Brandon's rape and murder by John Lotter and Tom Nissen.

The success of "Boys Don't Cry" relies heavily on Hilary Swank's portrayal of Brandon. Swank's previous credits are mostly pop culture brain candy, including "Beverly Hills 90210" and "The Next Karate Kid." Now it looks as though she has finally found a role to reveal her talent.

Swank is incredibly convincing as a man and in the difficult emotional scene. In order for viewers to respond in the end, it was important for them to identify with Brandon. Had it not been for Swank's performance, it is doubtful this would have been achieved, and the movie would have lost its highly emotional quality.

It was interesting to view the film in an audience consisting mostly of Nebraskans. The film has a few humorous parts, but it's possible these were funny only to Nebraskans. In one instance, Brandon and Lana talk dreamily of escaping to Lincoln, as if it were a

utopia. Later, the crew is seen "bumper skiing," supposedly the prime weekend activity for Nebraskans.

The Nebraska landscape wasn't exactly accurate, either. Local residents won't recognize any landmarks since the film was shot in and around Dallas. However, Peirce at least chose a place that was flat, so a few of the scenes look like the Nebraska countryside.

The best parts of the film were toward the end. The rape and interrogation scenes were the crux of the movie, and it seems Peirce focused most of her talent on that portion of the film. The editing in that part was very well done, leading the viewer through a series of intercut scenes from the discovery of Brandon's sex to the rape and interrogation.

The rape scene is particularly brutal but necessarily so. Peirce did not attempt to water down any of the difficult material. Everything gets shown, and because of that, audiences cannot avoid the disturbing and incredibly sad nature of Brandon's story.

It is truly amazing that this film was shot with a low budget and in 30 days. From the skilled handling of the subject matter to the effortless editing, it is hard to tell this is Peirce's first film.

"Boys Don't Cry" is an important film to see, but be mentally prepared before you see it. The film wasn't meant to be taken lightly, and it shows.

Even though Peirce took liberties with the facts, the fictional version drives home a definite understanding of Brandon's position and a deep concern for the way society dealt with it.

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