ART BUILDING MULBERRY AT WELCH

The Annual Voertman Student Art Competition and Exhibition Through April 24, 2009
Annual Student Art Competition and Exhibition

The Annual Voertman Student Art Competition is a tradition that has become synonymous with student excellence in art and design. Originally supported by the estate of Voertman’s cousin, “North Texas Tradition since 1925,” this exhibition draws from the 20th-century holdings of the Texas Fashion Collection at the College of Visual Arts and Design. The “Hock Shop” Collection of early 20th-century design, East Indian cultures all have in common? At the University of North Texas, they will all be themes for ArtWear 2009 garments, a runway extravaganza! ArtWear, an annual juried exhibition of graduating seniors’ student work will be held this year. May 9th at 7:00 PM at the UNT Student Union Student Eagle Ballroom. Admission tickets are $10, $5 with a UNT student ID. Tickets are available for purchase at the UNT Union Information Booth or online by calling UNT 945-2434. Remaining available tickets will be sold at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

Between 30-40 graduating seniors, all part of the Fashion Design program at UNT, will submit their best designs to be judged by fashion professionals. Approximately 8-10 garments will be selected for the show and will be judged to win awards in categories such as Best Collection, Most Creative, Directors’ Choice, Faculty Choice, Most Improved Work and Most Marketable.

ArtWear has been a part of the Fashion Design program at UNT for over 25 years and has launched many successful designer debuts. Recognized alumni of the program include Michael Faircloth, Nicolas Villaflia and Frisky Michael.

Michael Faircloth, who dressed First Lady Laura Bush graduated from UNT in 1983 and has built a distinguished career designing fashions worn internationally. In 2007, UNT honored Faircloth with the Distinguished Alumnus Award for achieving distinction in his profession. For spring 2007, Faircloth created a green beaded silk evening gown for the inauguration of Dr. Gretchen Bataille, the first female president of UNT.

Nicolas Villaflia, owner and head designer of Nicolas Cristo, graduated from the UNT Fashion Design program with honors and acted as a judge for the ArtWear 2007 show. As an angel, he is the lead designer for Estee Lauder, as the international design competition, Estee La De Mode, where his even Verse won the Prix du Public – a first for any American designer.

Frisky Michael is recognized for the Finley Shirt, the white shirt, which has been produced by any American designer.

FASHION ON MAIN

Saturday, March 1, 2009
Egyption Elegance at Fashion on Main

Explore evening gowns inspired by the garments of ancient Egypt in a solo exhibition from the Texas Fashion Collection, part of the University of North Texas College of Visual Arts and Design. Egyptian Elegance coincides with the Dallas Museum of Art’s ongoing Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs exhibition and with a current exhibition from the Granary who has been inspired by the ancient Egyptians as inspiration for her current endeavors. Egyptian Elegance will give guests an exciting opportunity to explore the art of the ancient Egyptian culture.
This issue of the Avant-Garde is dedicated to the alumni profile. Looking through this issue, you will see some of what people are looking more and more to the creative sectors internationally. Please visit the CVAD website at art.unt.edu regularly to see what is going on now! Educated people who can function in a variety of settings, students, and faculty of CVAD who give so much to make our world a better experience.

The Clash, 2008
Gouache, acrylic, resin on panel

The Ephemeral and the Eternal, 2008

March 3–March 4, 2009
Sam Hall and John Beal: the Influence of Graffiti
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CVAD Emeritus Professor Claudia Webb Betti Benson 1942–2008
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CVAD Emeritus Professor Claudia Webb Betti Benson, Saturday, February 29, 2009, at her residence in Denton surrounded by family and friends. Professor Betti, a highly respected and popular member of what was then known as the Art Department faculty, was an influential and international colleague. Professor Betti, a graduate student at University in Art Teaching, invited students to her home for discussions and advice. She was a particularly effective mentor for student and female faculty colleagues. Collaborating with Emeritus Professor Bill McGaron, she developed an interdisciplinary art history course at the University. Professor Betti was born November 2, 1942, in El Paso, Texas. She received her undergraduate degree at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio and her B.F.A. degree in Art History from the University of Texas at Austin. Professor Betti was an influential instructor who co-authored a nationally known text on art and art education and was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts to commission the first Feminist Art Project at the Paris Institute of Fine Arts. Professor Betti was a one-time student of her mentor and fellow faculty member, Emeritus Professor Bill McGaron, and his parents for her passion for art. Upon finishing high school she was drafted into the Air Force to pursue his true passion; ART. He had a one-man show of his watercolors at the UT gallery that included the artists that have been awarded this prestigious Medal.

Moroles was internationally renowned as one of the greatest contemporary sculptors working with granite today. Moroles was born in Corpus Christi, Texas in 1950 and is the son of immigrant worker, limited to a second grade education. His mother was a cotton picker and Moroles spent his youth with his parents on the cotton fields. This experience, born of poverty, created an intrinsic work ethic in his formative years. He was also influenced during this time by his parents in agriculture. He attended the University of Corpus Christi at the University of Texas in Austin. Moroles was commissioned to create murals for many business and public places and have participated in gallery exhibitions throughout the state. His unique style allows him to create only legal graffiti that betters their communities.

March 3–March 28, 2009
Ruin Totem, 1998. It was created in Georgia grey granite and is permanently installed in the garden courtyard of the Dallas Museum of Art.

CVAD Emeritus Professor Claudia Webb Betti Benson 1942–2008

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