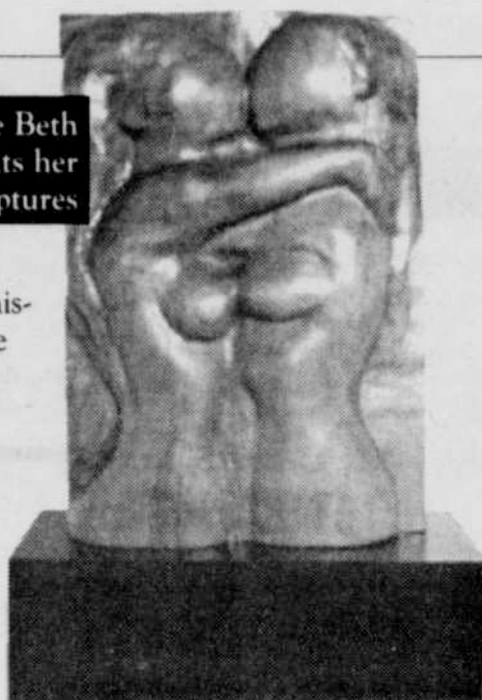


Oregonian Jose Beth Smolensky exhibits her beautiful wood sculptures



Quality counts

The Pride art show ups its ante

BY LISA BRADSHAW

As evidenced by submissions received by the Alberta Arts Pavilion/Our Dream Gallery, queer art is alive and well and living in Waterfront Park on June 15 and 16 as part of Portland Pride 2002.

The gallery accepted almost all artistic mediums for its third annual Pride art show, this year titled *The Codex of Queer Art*. The call for artists this year was

nationwide rather than just local, and the response was tremendous.

"I think...Pride's art exhibition [is] being taken more seriously and has gained a level of respect," gallery director Reggie Petry says. "To my knowledge,

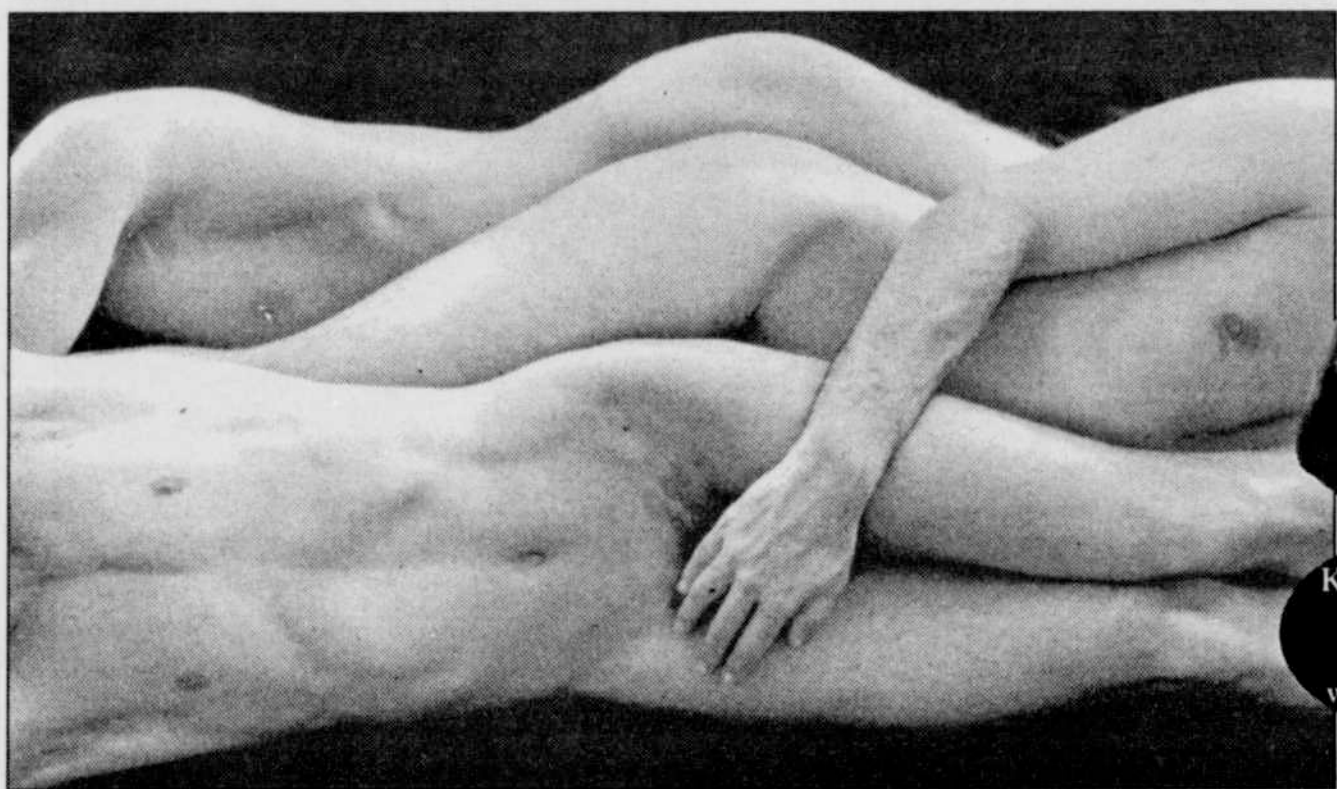
Portland's Pride event is the only one in America that incorporates a fine art show in their calendar of events."

Because of the increase in entries and new criteria for the quality of the art, this show was juried by Portland gay artist Tabor Porter. He reviewed submissions, accepting or rejecting them based on "level of expertise," he says.

"We really didn't need to screen out very many. The people who submitted work were actually very good."

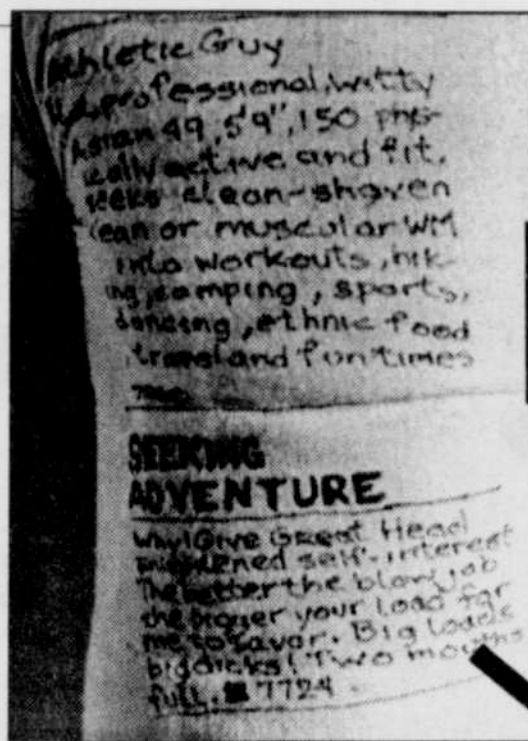
After Pride, all the entries will move to Our Dream, 2315 N.E. Alberta St., which will play host to an official opening June 27.

Work will be available to view through July 20, when the gallery will play host to an LGBT Grand Party with music, door prizes and a no-host bar from noon to 5 p.m. [M]

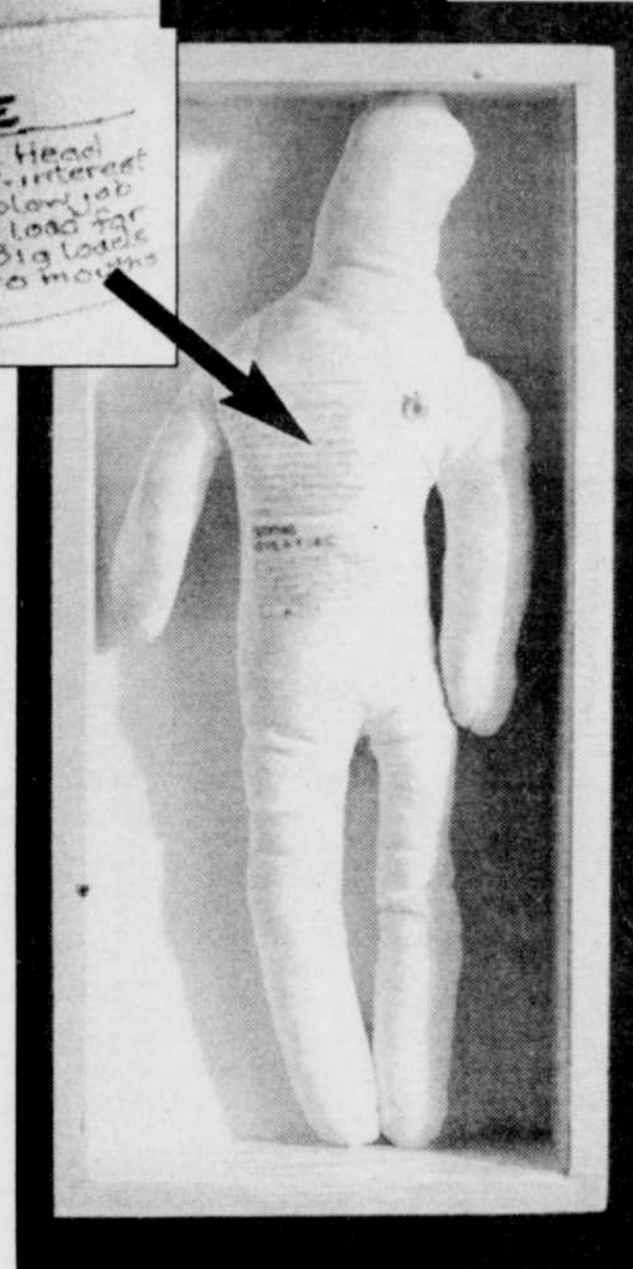


Katrina Humbert of Kennewick, Wash., works with oil and clay

San Francisco photographer Christopher Read likes "to explore the contours and terrains of landscapes, cityscapes, plants, bodies and surfaces." Fortunately, it's the bodies he's bringing to Portland.



Artist Dan Pillers of San Francisco believes "we all have a story to tell"



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