

# Art captivates at Renwick Gallery

STORIES BY ELIZABETH KESSEL

The silence stood out to me when I entered the Renwick Gallery, one of the Smithsonian museums. Then, the large staircase leading to the upper level caught my eye and curiosity.

The gallery was showcasing four artists on the first floor. The upper level was the permanent artwork.

On the left, observers could view Jennifer Trask's materials combined beautifully. Her work appeared simple, until I read the description cards.

One of her pieces, "Landscape," included various bone fragments, spliced antler vines, cast resin mixed with bone, calcium carbonate and bone char underpainting.

As I continued, Trask's artwork eventually blended into Steven Young Lee's exhibit. Lee's work included porcelains dealing with both Western and Eastern traditions. My favorite pieces from his exhibit were the "Cloisonne Pattern Vase" and "Peonies Vase."

Continuing to the back was a larger room shared by the artists Norwood Viviano and Kristen Morgin.

Viviano's artwork consisted of glass and metal that shows the rise and fall of American cities. Hanging from

the ceiling were blown glass hovering over maps of cities like Los Angeles and Chicago. On the wall behind the maps were dates to represent a timeline.

Next to Viviano's exhibit was Morgin's. Her approach to ceramics was unconventional, and she used unfired clay with large objects such as pianos and tiny little trinkets she owns.

My favorite piece from her section was the hauntingly beautiful "Piano Forte" made of unfired clay, wood, wire, salt, cement and glue to create a life-sized piano. In this piece, a large portion of the piano was missing and the remainder is broken and fragile.

Upstairs, four rooms were filled with all kinds of pieces from different artists. The one I enjoyed the most was "The Greek Slave," a statue in the middle of the room showing a naked woman bearing her breasts and butt.

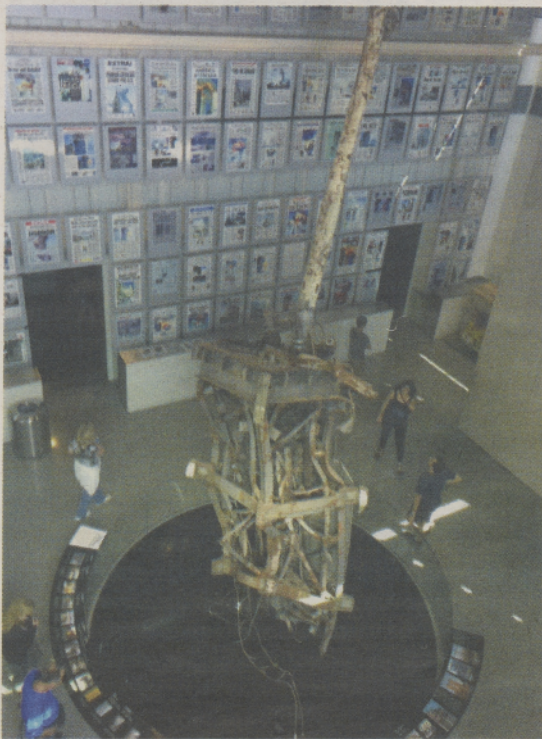
At the Renwick Gallery, it was a treat to see such amazing artwork from so many artists. Each artist had a different style that could provoke awe and questions. Within the silence of the gallery, nothing was short of being loud and elegant.

photo by Elizabeth Kessel



Ehren Tool's cups communicate his time spent in war, showcased at the Renwick Gallery.

# Newseum speaks to journalists



Visitors at the Newseum look at the remains of the antenna from the World Trade Center's North Tower.

Welcome, please walk through the doors into a news world. Recently, members of the Clackamas Print had the chance to go to Washington, D.C. for the National College Media Convention.

While in D.C., I was able to explore the Newseum. Yes, you read that right, it is a museum for news! It's most journalists' perfect place to hang out for the day.

The Newseum is six stories tall, with the first level starting at a portion of the Berlin Wall. The excitement continued with the glass elevator that takes groups of people to the sixth story. This leads to the roof of the building with a beautiful view of the Capitol and the surrounding area.

From the sixth floor, guests can make their way down, each level including multiple interactive exhibits. In total, 15 exhibits and movie theaters are for people to enjoy.

As I walked through, I came across the front pages of newspapers from the past. This included a front page of the Daily News from 1937 when the Hindenburg exploded. Another was a cover of the Pittsburgh Courier from 1963 about Martin Luther King, Jr., with a headline that read, "I Have A Dream...Today!"

As I continued down, I came to another amazing

exhibit: the "Journalists Memorial," which was a wall of fallen journalists. I was equally saddened and inspired to look at all the lives taken. There were also blank spaces for future journalists.

One of the larger exhibits was in honor of 9/11 and displayed the needle from the World Trade Center. Surrounding the needle, and serving as a barricade from touching it, was a timeline of what occurred on that day.

On a wall above the needle were comments from people about where they were that day and what they remembered. One of the comments read, "To my sister and unborn nephew and niece I will always love you and never forget you."

Walking down another level, the CNN political campaign allowed visitors to voice their opinions and concerns about the current candidates. This section also taught about the candidates' stances on important issues.

At the end are two gift shops to choose from and take some history home. I bought myself a fun T-shirt that says, "Trust me...I'm a reporter." But the gifts are not the only thing to take back home. The Newseum was full of rich history, fun exhibits, lessons and story ideas.