



Felicia Szorad, *Bloom*, sterling, copper, bronze, enamel, 10 x 8 x 7", 2000. Detail.

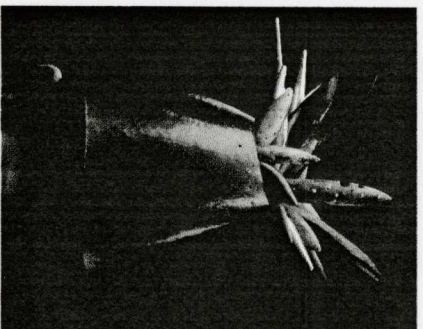
(Maryland), Virginia Derryberry (North Carolina), M.M. Dupuy (Ohio),

Pam Fox (Virginia), Megan Greene (New York), Elise McWilliams (Ohio), Valerie and Jonathan Nicklow (Colorado), Laura Ruby (Hawaii), Donna Stackhouse (New Jersey), and Felicia Szorad (Kentucky).


The works selected for the exhibit refer specifically or generally to the concept of the surreal. Valerie and Jonathan Nicklow's collaborative work, *Her Body Given for You*, recalls the famous surrealist Magritte's work, with the female form acting as a vessel for actions outside of it. The work is richly textural with both pop and historical symbolism. Valerie sculpts the porcelain forms for their work, and

Jonathan uses oil paint to add color and detail.

Another sculptural piece featured in the exhibition is by Eastern Kentucky University art professor Felicia Szorad. Her works were selected for the exhibition in part because they blur the edges between the familiar and the functional (a hat to wear), and the strange and the fantastic (with flowerlike pods bursting from the crown), a hallmark of surrealism. An eerily fanciful scientific experiment explodes



from the photographic images of Pam Fox, which depict a space that exists in an otherworldly dream. M.M. Dupuy uses a familiar Dadaist and surrealist practice of picking through both fine art and popular visual culture to montage striking depictions of the human condition.

Surrealism in our art and our vocabulary won't be going away anytime soon. In a time of both natural and human-initiated large-scale disasters, most of which we view through some method of media, and small daily oddities that we experience in our versions of 'reality,' the word surreal is in accord with our experiences of something unreal or unconceivable interacting with the known—what some would describe as a typical symptom of our current existence. As Breton, the original surrealist, said, "I believe in the future resolution of the two states, apparently so contradictory, of dream and reality, in a sort of absolute reality, of surreality." 

For more information on Jennifer Reis, see next page.

RIVERBEND SCULPTURE BIENNIAL 2005

Sept. 10 to Nov. 6
This exhibition is a national competition for outdoor sculpture designed to establish a public art collection for the City of Owensboro.

An exhibition presented at
OWENSBORO MUSEUM OF FINE ART
901 Frederica St. · Owensboro, KY · 270-685-3181

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Owensboro Public Art Commission