

Tools for art

LMA hosts 'Tools in Motion' as it gears up for new home

By LAURA KNOWLES
Sunday News Correspondent

As the Lancaster Museum of Art looks forward to relocation in a renovated building next year, what could be more appropriate than an exhibit dedicated to tools?

"We're getting ready to embark on the new Lancaster Museum of Art on Queen Street, so this seemed like the ideal exhibit," said Museum Director Cindi Morrison. The museum will move from the Grubb Mansion at 135 N. Lime St. to the former Empire TV & Appliance store at 215 N. Queen St. (See related stories, this page and Page H1.)

Hardware connection

"Tools in Motion" is the traveling version of the larger "Tools in Art: The Hechinger Collection" exhibition, which showcases the collection of late hardware-industry pioneer John Hechinger Sr.

"Tools in Motion" will be making its first stop at the Lancaster Museum of Art Sept. 17-Oct. 30 before heading to the Museum of Texas Tech University, Michigan's Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, and the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art at Kansas State University.

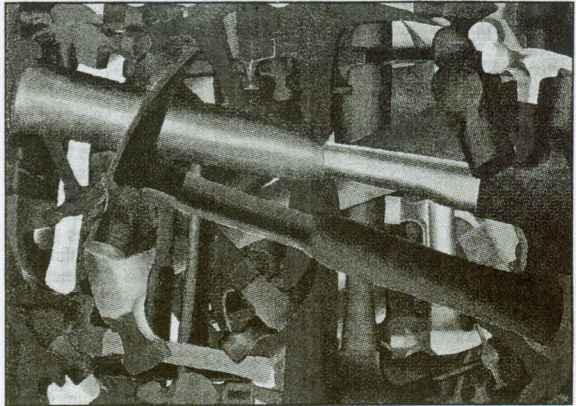
"Tools in Motion" will be featured on the main-gallery level. The upstairs gallery will feature "The City Within," works celebrating the urban heritage by local artist Ann DeLaurentis.

DeLaurentis' newest series of watercolors and etchings explores the angles, lines and vistas of the city, with its geometric forms, subtle finishes and surprisingly intense colors.

"I think the two exhibits will work very well together. There is a nice connection between them," said Morrison. "It's all about building."

Tools inspire creativity

While tools sound practical and utilitarian, the art in "Tools in Motion" is far from it. The artists obviously had fun with their assignment, transforming construction implements into imaginative creations displayed



A detail of "Hammers Inside," by artist Patrick Kirwin is shown above. It is one of the works which represents "Tools in Motion," an exhibit at the Lancaster Museum of Art.

in photographs, drawings, paintings and sculptures.

Edgar Soberon's pastel drawing, "The Kiss," adds a little romance to the lives of ordinary electrical cords, which are plugged into each other in a deeply passionate "kiss." The soft, blue-green background gives added drama to the tongue-in-cheek image.

"School of Fishes" by Arman uses welded steel and vise grips to spawn a vast school of shimmering, swimming "fish."

Colin Gray's "House and Home," a mixed-media piece, combines heart-shaped bricks and mortar with utility brooms, garden rakes, shovels and more. Stephen Hansen's comically offbeat "Man on the Limb" is a papier-mâché cartoon of a man about to saw off the tree limb on which he sits.

Morrison describes "Tools in Motion" as "an extraordinary selection of artwork celebrating repetition and motion in everyday tools and hardware." The result is a witty and lighthearted approach to what might be considered rather mundane items.

Morrison's art missing

Morrison has one of her own mixed-media sculptures in the original "Tools as Art" exhibit. Titled "Key to My Heart," it shows keys, locks and a dustpan against an industrial, diamond-patterned deck material. But she does not

expect that piece to be a part of the traveling exhibit coming here.

"Tools in Motion" will feature nearly 50 objects, consisting of 23 sculptures, 20 paintings and works on paper, and six mixed media, curated by Sarah Tanguy through International Arts & Artists, a nonprofit arts-service organization.

The exhibit's visit is supported by Friends of the LMA and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and sponsored in part by (how appropriately) Warfel Construction Co. and Wohlson Construction Co.

A reception for the "Tools in Motion: The Hechinger Collection" and Ann DeLaurentis' "The City Within" is scheduled for 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at the museum, 135 N. Lime St. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and noon-4 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free.