

Artwork of several centuries examined in Durham exhibit Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009

The Museum of Art at the University of New Hampshire in Durham traces the evolution of art in recent centuries in "Drawing the Line," a new exhibition opening Saturday, Jan. 24.

In addition, contemporary works by Northern Ireland printmakers will be unveiled in the joint showing, which is scheduled to run through Wednesday, April 8. A reception for both exhibition will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, at the campus gallery.

"Drawing the Line" examines the range of media, techniques, subjects and styles often found in drawings from the 18th century through the late 20th century. From representational to abstract, the selected images demonstrate the artists' mastery in use of materials such as graphite, charcoal, Conté crayon, pastel, ink and paint.



This pencil-and-charcoal piece, created by Sigmund Abeles in 1970, is part of an exhibition titled "Drawing the Line" at the Museum of Art at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

Drawn primarily from the collection of the Museum of Art at The University of New Hampshire, the exhibition includes works by Sigmund Abeles, Samuel Bak, Lewis Cohen, Jean Baptiste-Camille Corot, Frederick Trap Friis, John Hatch, Elyot Henderson, Jerry MacMichael, Lou Morgan, George Smillie, Herbert Waters, Charles Woodbury and Francesco Zuccarelli.

"Renewal: Printmakers from the New Northern Ireland" features 18 of Northern Ireland's significant contemporary printmakers, who present 36 works reflecting the styles, interests and concerns of region's "post-troubles" years.

Fueled by a decade of peace, Northern Ireland is experiencing an economic and cultural transformation, and the exhibition highlights this renaissance, in which cultural history and contemporary art play equal roles in a revitalization.

Works in the exhibition are drawn from two of Northern Ireland's most active printmaking workshops for artists, the Belfast Print Workshop and the Seacourt Print Workshop.



Deirdre McCrory's "Cow Parsley" is on view as part of a second showing that highlights some of Northern Ireland's most notable contemporary printmakers.

Presenting artists include Anushiya Sundarlingam, Valerie Giananndrea, Simon McWilliams, John Breakey, Fiona Joyce, Struan Hamilton, Veronica Wallis, Ivan Frew, Terry Gravett, Lynda Hamilton, Frances Gordon, Jessica Hollywood, Jill McKeown, Cecilia Stephens, Deirdre McCrory, Sara Brown, Jean Duncan and Lucy Turner.

"Renewal: Printmakers from the New Northern Ireland" exhibition tour is organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Belfast Print Workshop the Seacourt Print Workshop, and The Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

In conjunction with the exhibitions, the University of New Hampshire on Wednesday, Jan. 28, will present an ArtBreak program featuring a discussion of "Drawing the Line" with Debbie Disston, curator of the exhibition and director of The McIninch Art Gallery at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester. There is no cost to attend the 12 p.m. program at the Museum of Art

on campus. Other Artbreak programs are scheduled to run through to spring.

The Museum of Art, located in the Paul Creative Arts Center at 30 Academic Way on UNH's Durham campus, is open during the academic year Mondays through Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 862-3712 or log onto unh.edu/moa or museum.of.art@unh.edu.