

A&M exhibits UH sculptures

By GREG PROPPS

The blue triangles in the field between the architecture building and the Oceanography and Meteorology Building — they aren't monuments left by an ancient civilization. Nor are they surveyor's stakes for a new campus structure.

They are part of a sculpture exhibit being shown by Texas A&M University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design and the University of Houston Art Department.

Located in the first floor gallery, the surrounding lobby and courtyard outside the architecture building, the exhibit is the work of six undergraduate sculpture students from UH.

The sculptures range from mas-

sive and bizarre combinations of wood and metal, to a smaller and more curious design of plastic wrap and string. Other materials such as cloth, polished wood, mirrors, cow bones and electrical components have been used to achieve various effects.

Texas A&M has no art department of its own; and until recently, had little physical space for such a showing. This is A&M's first cooperative gallery showing.

Steve Daly, artist in residence of the environmental design department, was instrumental in bringing the exhibit from UH. Daly said that when the sculptures were being set up, Texas A&M students in the architecture building were asked to help. This gave students

from the two schools a chance for positive interaction, he said.

Daly said he is pleased with Texas A&M for sponsoring the showing and the quality of the work presented. Daly reviewed the exhibit, saying it was "diverse in ideas, image, scale and materials."

James Surls, sculpture instructor at UH said it is "really a big deal for the students, and these galleries seldom take student work."

An exhibit allows people to see an artist's product and "completes the piece of art," Surls said.

Student art shows on college campuses are beneficial to the school as well as the student artist, Surls said. He said architecture and art need to work together to be successful.

Presently there is little interaction between the two fields in daily practice, Surls said. The architect creates an empty space in designing his structure, the artist, working separately, "activates the space," he said.

If designers could bring art and architecture in designing the space from the start, the overall effect would be better, Surls said.

Many pieces in the show were produced as "unauthorized sculpture," said James Hatchett, whose work is represented in the show. Sculptures were placed in various places around the UH campus in protest to an attempt to phase out the sculpture classes from the UH art department.

All six sculptors were involved in the protest that ultimately succeeded in establishing an excellent sculpture program at UH, Hatchett said.

Hatchett uses eye-catching mechanical and electrical components with natural materials in his sculpture. Hatchett said most of the pieces in the show are for sale.

Prices for his work range from \$200 to \$2,000.

Catherine Cisneros, created the blue pipe sculpture in the architecture building courtyard. The sculpture, entitled "Continued Series" has to be viewed from the top to be fully appreciated.

Cisneros said her work is a "modular structure" pointing out space and perception. Cisneros explained that many people will not see the sculpture the first time by, but with repeated exposure, they will realize something is different about the area.

At this point, the sculpture is a success. Cisneros said its main function is "to broaden awareness of land." The sculpture was designed specifically for the field it encompasses. Cisneros hopes to bring another exhibit of sculpture integrated with electronic music in April.

Surls said he hopes more shows of this type can be brought to Texas A&M. The exhibit will be here through Feb. 25 and opens at Arizona State University next month.



Battalion photo by Jana Hazlett

"Insane Dillusion," a sculpture by Bob Graham, is part of the University of Houston sculpture exhibition. The exhibit will be in the Architecture building through Feb. 25.



Don Redman's sculpture, "Figure Four Trap," captures public attention in the courtyard of the Architecture building. Redman's sculpture is part of an exhibit by six Univer-

sity of Houston artists. The exhibition is sponsored by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Battalion photo by Jana Hazlett

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T-37 pilots visit A&M

Air Force input into the Air Force ROTC program at Texas A&M University is planned today and Thursday.

A static display of T-37 aircraft at Easterwood Field will also be open to the public.

The planes, from Randolph Air Force Base, will be flown here by instructor pilots Capt. Alex Dade and Capt. Larry Watford. The pilots, 1972 Texas A&M graduates, will also visit sophomore and freshmen AFROTC classes.

Their presentations and question-answer sessions will allow cadets to get information about active duty assignments and Air Force career opportunities, said Col. Kenneth Durham, professor of aerospace studies.

The T-37s will be on display today and Thursday afternoon.

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