

Artists team up for unique exhibit



ANNE VICKSTROM
ARTS COLUMNIST

The estimated 1,500 people who attended last weekend's Holiday Walk left with the gift of having discovered the thought-provoking and feel-good art featured at Stoneheart Gallery.

If this latest addition to the Evergreen Galleries has yet to be discovered by you, there is no better time to visit than during the holiday season.

Owners Mark and Hattie King have intentionally set out to discover art that is unique to their gallery, and during the past month they have discovered some of the best.

Kimberly MacArthur Graham and Bonnie Ferrill Roman, both represented artists at Stoneheart, come together for a special exhibit this month in collaborative works.

These artists discovered each other and recognized that their works, which could be described as organic, could be great together. The current show at Stoneheart proves they were right.

Graham said she "realized I

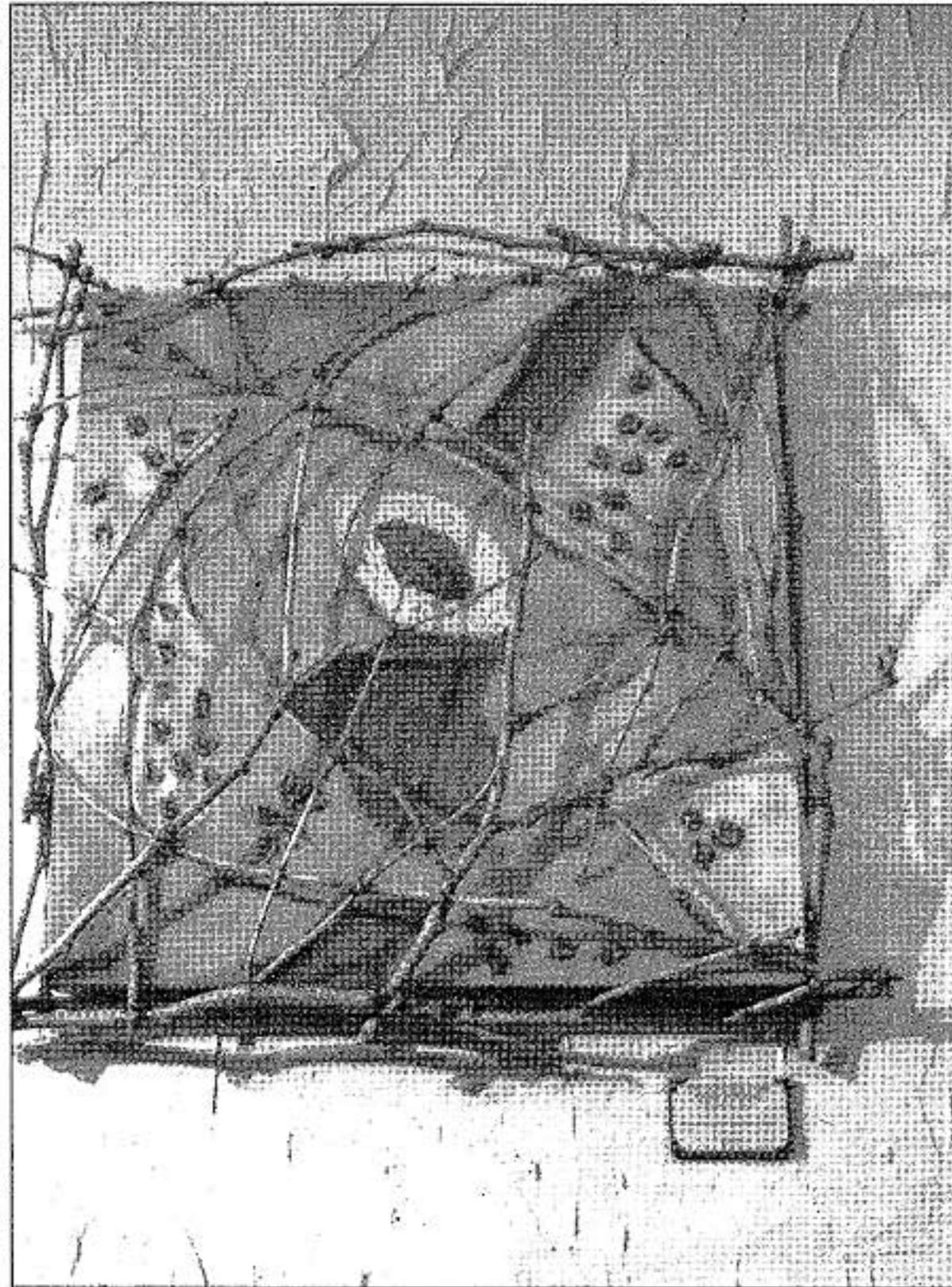


Photo by ANNE HOPPER VICKSTROM | For the Courier

was more interested in texture than figures. I began to make strange things — internal, organic textures. I like taking abstract

textures and blowing them up further, like the inside of organic structures."

Her paintings are presented on

COLLABORATIVE WORKS by Kimberly MacArthur Graham and Bonnie Ferrill Roman are on display this month at Stoneheart Gallery.

canvas structures rather than flat canvases, giving each piece yet another dimension.

"I use oils, and then acrylic paint or medium, to create seeds and pods. I have recently begun to use metallic paints to create something that reminds you of nature, but then use really bright colors. By using colors not found in nature, it's like creating a cooler version of what's really there."

Roman's art is mixed media, using handmade paper and natural twigs to create fascinating wall sculptures and even organic light covers. It is simply impossible to pass by her work without stopping to take it in. Special to this show, Roman has introduced small vessels that can either rest on a flat surface or hang from a wall. Each presents natural colors that draw you in to look closer, where you'll discover surprises of a feather, a pod, a banana bean, a peach pit,

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and even a lock of golden hair.

"People can buy just one or two," explained Mark King, "while others may want to purchase enough to cover an entire wall, like we've done here in the gallery."

The collaborative works are the best of both. Peering inside a sculpture, the beauty of the textured canvas is revealed. Painting on the rough textures flatters Nature's work, and if it were possible, would even inspire new growth.

In addition to these two artists, the Kings have brought in some of Evergreen's favorite artists who have not been seen in galleries for some time.

Bev Endsley's gentle spirit is found in both her portrait of a Native American as well as her delicate image of a nude. Susan Simon's spirituality is revealed in her paintings, in which she, like Graham, takes painstaking care in creating texture that speaks from beneath the small figures that dot her canvas. Kathy Beekman's chalk pastel landscapes transport viewers back to their childhoods on rolling farmland or retrieve memories of panoramas that stole our breath.

The Kings truly have added something rich to our gallery community.

"When I see new art that I really like, I figure others will also want it," said Mark King, who provides the gallery with his own outstanding photography.

This is a gallery that, year-round, soothes the soul after a



Photos by ANNE HOPPER VICKSTROM | For the Courier

BONNIE FERRILL ROMAN'S small vessels are seen on the wall at Stoneheart Gallery. Kimberly MacArthur Graham's art is seen in the distance.

hassled day. But with the holiday season upon us, it is also a gallery that can provide an unforgettable gift for someone that shares your walls.

Graham and Roman will give an artists' talk at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, during First Thursday Gallery Night at Stoneheart Gallery, 28005 Highway 74 in downtown Evergreen. For more

information, call 303-670-0565.

Stoneheart is open Tuesday through Sunday, and like many other shops in downtown will remain open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays through Dec. 22.

Anne Hopper Vickstrom writes from her Evergreen home, where she lives with her husband, three children and two dogs.