

No admission charge for miniature show

By Harold Carmichael

Good things can come in small packages.

If you're interested in taking in an art show that is out of the ordinary, plan on visiting La Galerie du Nouvel-Ontario's "Great Miniature Show" now on display until October 6.

The Show opened last Thursday evening in the Gallery's premises situated in Place St. Joseph, 20 St. Anne's Road. Approximately 80 people were in attendance including 15 of the artists who contributed materials for the Show. There is no admission charge to come in and see the Show weekday afternoons from 1 to 5 pm or on Saturdays.

What makes up the Show? "It's basically fine art, mostly from Sudbury and area artists," explains Gallery artistic director Raymond Simond. A total of 28 participating artists are involved with 90 pieces of art making up the Show. Artists who have submitted work include Luc Robert, Denis Lalonde, Pat Roberts, Ivan Wheale, Bernard Poulin, and Micheline Montgomery.

There were a few rules to be respected concerning entries that were to be considered for the Show. "We asked for artists to send in their best pieces," says Simond. "But they had to be under six inches by six inches." What resulted, notes the director, was that many of the

artists did not consider sending in previously-made items, but instead, worked towards the Show's specifications in the creation of new ones.

What was sent in to be considered for the Show? According to Simond, paintings, sculptures (made of soapstone, leather and ceramics), weaving, and even some print-making, was submitted. "Some were just

nuts and bolts and even turkey bones," notes the director, referring to the small abstract submissions of Sudburian Denis Lalonde.

The majority of submissions though, were paintings, specifically involving water colors. "The medium lends itself to that size," points out Simond. "It's hard to do small sculptures." In fact, most of the artists

normally work with much larger mediums and had only six months to submit their best three works (in one, two, or three different mediums) for possible inclusion in the Show.

Adding that the Show is a good combination of professional and amateur artists, Simond notes that while the art pieces are in the Gallery's possession, they will remain so up un-

til October 6, when they will be returned to the artists who created them.

What types of themes are evident with the 90 pieces of art that make up The Great Miniature Show? "There's quite a variety," says the director. "A lot of northern Ontario artists have the tendency to work with landscapes."

Reaction to the Show, thus far, has also been

very good. While the Show is open to the public on weekday afternoons, Simond feels that Saturdays are likely going to be the big viewing day. "Approximately 700 to 800 people will probably see it," estimates the director, of how many will come in to see what the Show is all about in the weeks ahead.

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