

Barbara Barnes Allen is Manville's July Exhibitor

Lynne D. Williams, medical school information
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"Birdsnests, the Sargasso Series and Postcards" will make up the July exhibit in the Manville Gallery at the University of Nevada School of Medicine.

Barbara Barnes Allen is a Seattle artist who works with a variety of materials, including polyester body putty, which sets up like fiberglass when a hardener is added.

"If unattached to a solid form or framework, it remains very fragile," says Allen. "It is this very fragility that I find aesthetically irresistible in spite of the difficulties it presents as a working material. This medium allows me the flexibility to work a vast spectrum, from large organic forms to ultra delicate twig-like shapes."

Also included in the exhibit is the artist's postcard series which she considers an important aside to her work. "I can never part with any of my travel tickets or foreign receipts," she admits. "Especially intriguing to me are all of the alphabets so different from ours - Greek, Asian, Arabic, and Eastern European. So I use all these scraps of paper to make my travel collages.

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Barnes studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD, in 1968 and 1969, and earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, FL.

The artist has exhibited in numerous one-person shows and collections, including The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC; the Seattle Art Museum Sales and Rental Gallery; The Ivey Gallery in Los Angeles; the University of Oregon Museum of Art in Eugene; Shoreline College Gallery in Seattle; The Foundation Gallery at Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon, WA; and The Washington State Arts Commission in Seattle.

The opening reception for the Barnes exhibit will be held Monday, July 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Manville Gallery; the exhibit runs through July 31. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The gallery is partially supported by a grant from the Nevada State Council on the Arts.