

manville gallery exhibit - July

Susan A. Stookey, medical school information
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Clay resembles water in the artworks of Christine Pendergrass, to be exhibited at the University of Nevada School of Medicine's Manville Gallery, July 1 - Aug. 2.

The gallery, at the school's Reno campus facility, is open to the public from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Klamath Falls, Ore., artist has constructed a fountain, a waterfall, and an unusual "Water Window" from multitudes of undulating clay rivulets. She uses glossy glazes in various shades of blue, and the accents from bits of reflective Mylar to contribute to the shimmering, fluid nature of her "Water Works."

The show will also feature Ms. Pendergrass' expansive, wall-mounted "Cloudscape," comprised of five bas relief ceramic "clouds," installed en masse at various heights along the gallery wall. Each individual cumulus "cloud" was created from a myriad of handbuilt forms of white stoneware whose rich texture was achieved through the imprints of crushed tissue paper pressed into wet clay.

To highlight the lacy texture left by the crumpled tissue, the artist treated the clay surfaces with numerous coats of diluted glazes prior to firing the form in her electric kiln.

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Originally from Detroit, Ms. Pendergrass began her work with clay at Stanford University, where she received a degree in art. She is the recipient of a \$2,000 grant from the Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation of New York City, to continue her work with glaze-firing with electricity. She will be traveling to Sweden to study with ceramic sculptors and potters who use the method more widely than elsewhere in the world.

Her works have received attention from national magazines such as Ceramics Monthly and American Craft, and have been included in juried national shows from coast to coast. The Manville Gallery show will be her eleventh solo exhibit in three years.

For more information, phone the gallery at 784-6001.