Mexico and other western regions.

The exhibit housed by the UH Sarah Campbell Blaffer Gallery is an extraordinary collection of pieces either done by local artists of New Mexico, or the art pieces themselves are here courtesy of various galleries in New Mexico.

Works displayed vary from paintings, drawings and photographs to video cassette pieces, sculptures and pottery.

One of the most interesting works of art is a pastel on paper titled, "Hounds of Hell." In the picture there are two hounds, gracefully, playfully posed which are colored an intensely hot orange-red. The color of the dogs is quite reminiscent of the red skies at morning New Mexico is famous for.

Another interesting piece is a sculpture of leather and mixed media, and is called "Sacrifice of a Poet." Its demonic maskations of evil, hate, disillusionment, disgust, or madness.

But by far, the most interesting item is a three-part videotape by Steina. The tape is an exquisite work of montage, juxtaposed images. The first is "Flux," a black and white account of a twisting and turning river. Each view is one blink (or one second) long, giving the same effect as a strobe light. The second is "Urban Episodes" in which Steina uses mirrors, cameras and other reflectives to view city scenes. It's in color, and the buildings, cars and people are misshaped almost to a hideous point. One scene in this piece is the way a city bus is viewed through some type of reflective lens. The distorted view portrays the bus to be almost animated. The lens strokes the bus like one would stroke a cat, thus giving it the look of multi-arched vertebrae. The third and final video is called "Selected Tree Cuts." It utilizes color and black and white techniques. The strobe effect is used again. It begins with a color view of trees during the autumn season. But between color views are the black and white mosaic infra images. In places where the color is richer, hotter, the greys are darker. This quadri-motifed piece is outstanding.

The exhibit is one of the best to ever be seen at the Blaffer Gallery. It is a mind expanding, thought provoking experience for anyone. The gallery's hours are: Tuesday-Saturday, 10-6 and Sunday, 1-6, closed on Monday.

Photos

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