

In a first for the city, the Columbia Art League is showcasing the works of members of the nationally recognized Missouri Watercolor Society. Jill Stedem, executive director for the Columbia Art League, says 98 artists from eight different states are competing in the exhibit, which provides a great opportunity for the community to see the works of artists not native to Missouri.

## Missouri Watercolor Society Members' Invitational

**where:** Columbia Art League  
**when:** Sept. 6 - 30, Tues. to Sat., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**cost:** free  
**call:** 443-2131

Members of the society could enter any form of water media paintings, including the media ink, acrylics and watercolors. Most of the paintings are for sale, and the Columbia Art League will receive a small portion of the profits.

David Kuczynski, who won last year with *Morning Catch*, was asked to judge the contest and awarded prizes to the winners at the opening ceremony on Sept. 11. Kuczynski said he relied on his own experience and knowledge as an artist to judge the contest.

Columbia resident Kathryn Mitter entered her painting, *Circles*, in the exhibition. The painting features a potted plant with vibrant green leaves, a pot filled with gray stones and a pot with a thin neck as viewed from an aerial perspective. This painting and the works of the other 97 artists will be on display until Sept. 30.

— NISA KORTE

Art is not limited to paint on canvas. It can be something as modern as computer-enhanced photos or as simple as wood. The Fusion Show at the Davis Art Gallery features four local artists who express themselves through these different mediums.

"The Fusion Show is about new contemporary ideas, possibilities and creating fusion of the elements together in union," says Peter Anger, whose work will be featured.

Each artist will display his art with ample space surrounding it, allowing viewers to devote their whole attention to one piece at a time. "The show offers up the idea of empty space and size as a luxury for the visual experience," Anger says.

Columbia resident Jimmie Markey will display images created on a computer in a 3-D environment. St. Louis resident John Pruitt's work consists of large photographic inkjet prints. Anger, a Columbia resident and owner of Helios Studio, calls his photographs "light paintings," and Columbia resident Chris Teeter creates abstract wooden sculptures.

— MICHELLE DUMONTIER

## The Fusion Show

**where:** Davis Art Gallery, Stephens College campus  
**when:** Sept. 9 - Oct. 7, Mon. to Fri., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
**cost:** free  
**call:** 876-7175

The beautiful photograph shows a mixture of red and gold light silhouetting the ancient Roman sculpture *Discus Thrower*. The title of the photograph is *Pis Discus* because it depicts a small replica of the sculpture immersed in urine. This is one of two Andres Serrano photographs that will be on display at the Museum of Art & Archaeology in conjunction with Serrano's upcoming visit to MU.

Known for his controversial photographs that combine the taboo and the sacred, Serrano poses questions about decency and limitations in today's society. He will address these issues on Sept. 29 in a lecture about his art and accomplishments.

"Unfortunately, some people think he is a pseudo artist who strives for shock effect alone, but really he is a talented fine arts photographer who engages important moral, political and social issues," says Hannah Johnson, an MU junior majoring in art history who arranged for Serrano's visit to Columbia. Filled with Catholic icons and symbols, Serrano's work has a history of stirring up controversy; his work *Piss Christ* nearly caused the National

Endowment for the Arts to lose its funding in the late '80s.

"Serrano is a smart artist," says Kristin Schwain, an American art and archaeology professor at MU. "He asks pointed and compelling questions that invite more of a conversation than a conclusion."

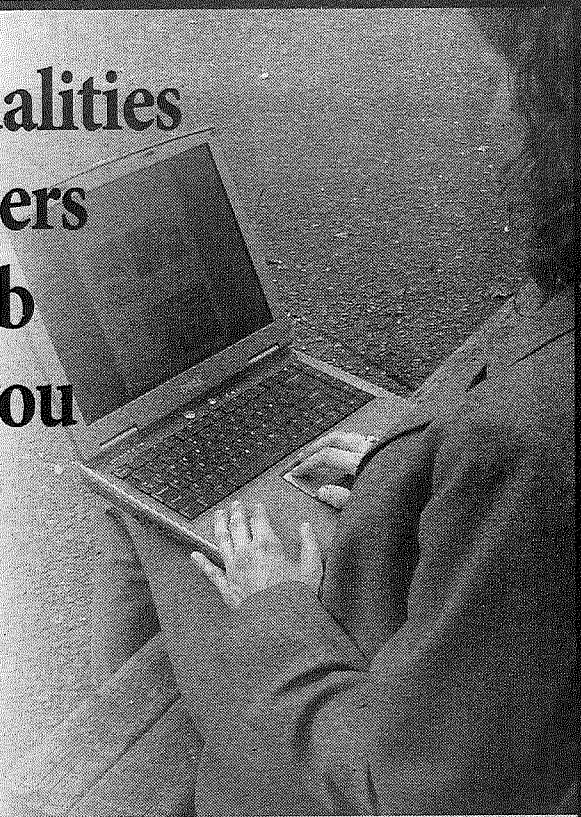
— MICHELLE DUMONTIER

## The Art of Andres Serrano

**where:** Ellis Auditorium, MU campus  
**when:** Sept. 29, 6:30 p.m.  
**cost:** free

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