

And the winner is...

Lake Oswego Review - 5/29/08

New art in Lake Oswego

The ballots are in, and the winning sculpture is "Complement II" by Marrilee Moore. The polished steel and colorful glass ball sculpture on the corner of 2nd St. and A Ave. will now officially become a permanent part of the Lake Oswego public art collection.

This is the fifth year in a row that the Lake Oswego Foundation for the Arts, in partnership with the City of Lake Oswego, has given the public the opportunity to select the sculpture to be purchased from the Gallery Without Walls rotating exhibit. Ballots were available on line, in newspapers, and throughout the community.

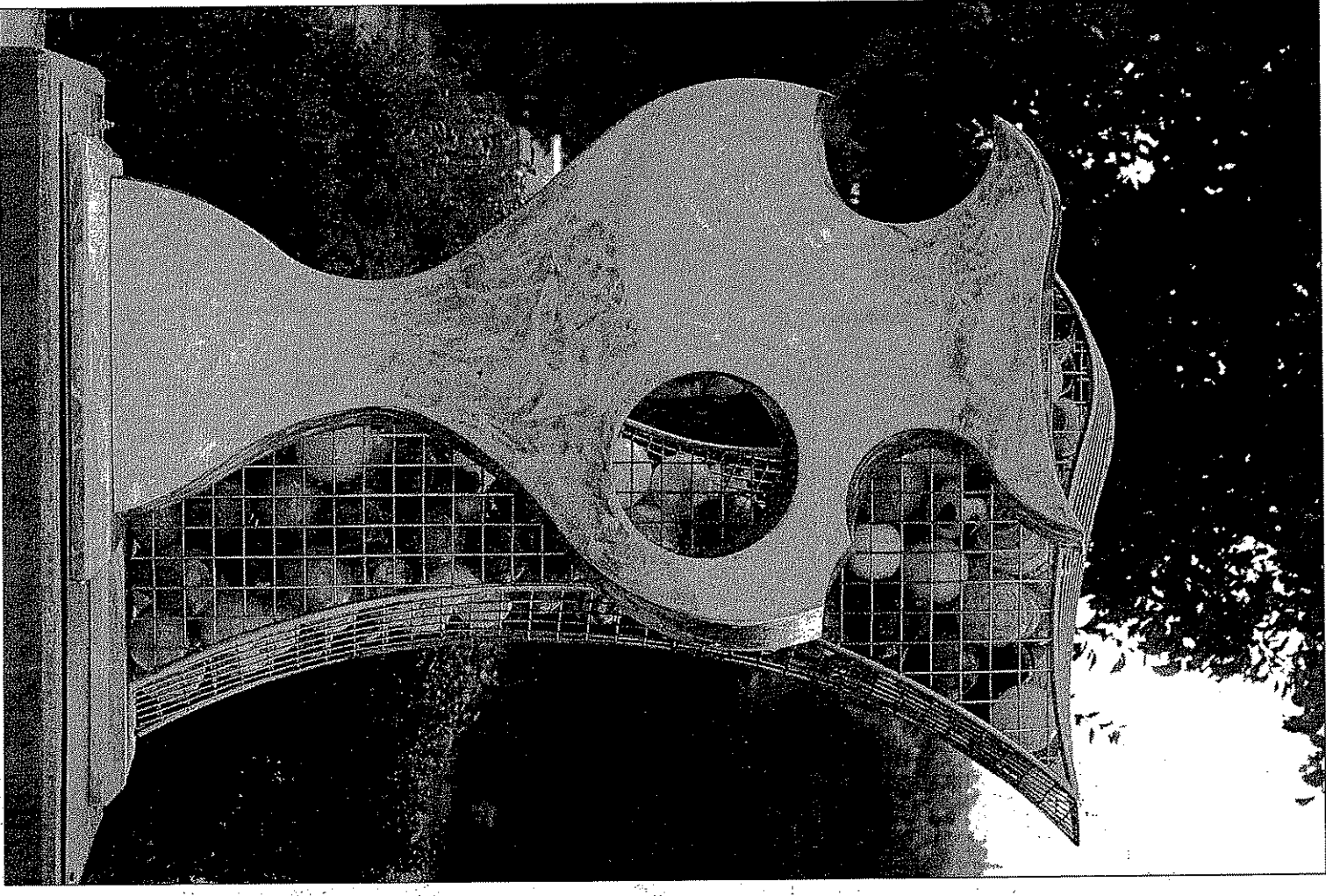
The Gallery Without Walls Selection Committee considered several issues when choosing the five sculptures for this year's ballot. Will it hold up over time? What else is in the permanent collection? How can the collection showcase a diversity of intent, materials and form?

The final five were "Dancing Fool #5" by Micajah Bienvenu (at 3rd St. and A Ave.), "Wormy Apple #2" by Ed Humpherys (Lower Millennium Plaza), "Complement II" by Marrilee Moore (2nd St. and A Ave.), "Three Shades" by Steve Reinmuth (Foothills Park), and "Departure I" by W. Scott Trimble (16325 Boones Ferry Rd.).

Many indicated that the decision was difficult, as all of the sculptures were very well liked. However, the winning sculpture may have gone the distance because, as one voter said, "It makes me happy every time I see it."

The Foundation is currently preparing for fifteen new sculptures that will be rotating into the community this summer. Each piece in the rotating exhibit stays for two years. All the pieces are for sale. Approximately half the art will be leaving the community this summer.

For additional information contact Cheryl Brock at 503-675-3738.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The public voted for "Complement II" by Marrilee Moore to stay in Lake Oswego as part of the permanent public art collection Gallery Without Walls.

ART FOR THE MASSES

■ Grants Pass artist Janet Gogue will be in Wilsonville this weekend to kick off the new chalk art event at the Festival of Arts

By MICHELLE TE

WILSONVILLE SPOKESMAN — 5-28-08

There's something about public art that just gets people excited.

Just ask Janet Gogue, an artist in Grants Pass who recently finished a mural on the side of an office building she called "one of the ugliest in town."

Perched upon scaffolding in the center of town, Gogue (pronounced goway) received car honks, thumb up and several compliments for turning the side of a building into a beautifully-landscaped piece of art.

"People love art in action," she said by telephone from her home in southern Oregon. "Like with this mural I just did, people would drive around the block five times just to see it happening. They thought it was so much fun."



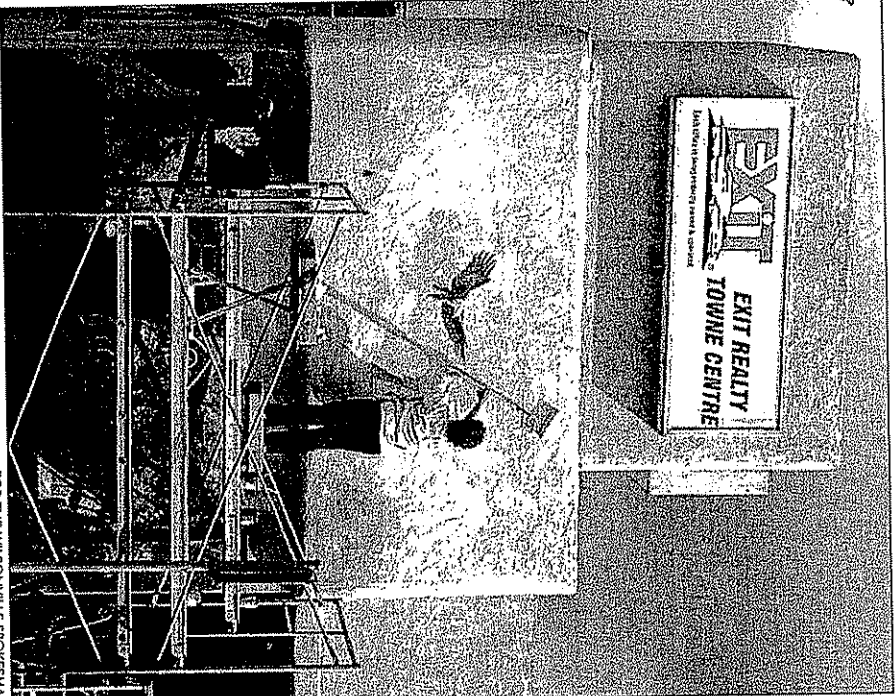
JANET GOGUE
Enjoys the appeal of public art

Gogue has been painting large murals and doing decorative painting for the past five years, since moving to Grants Pass to be near her daughter. She had been doing graphic art and painting for 35 years, and was looking to step up her game.

"I didn't have my computer when I moved, and I knew I liked to paint," she said. "I thought, 'Maybe I can paint in people's houses,' so I did and I am."

Gogue paints murals, faux finishes and hand-painted tiles. She recently completed some grapes in a home that she's particularly proud of. So much so, she wants to go back and re-do any grapes she'd previously painted.

"It was just how grapes should look," she said. "Others that I did, they didn't have the depth of real grapes. But



FOR THE WILSONVILLE SPOKESMAN

Grants Pass residents often would drive around the block five times just to get a better view of the public art mural that Janet Gogue created.

everyday is a learning process."

Which is what happened when Gogue signed up for Art along the Rogue, a well-attended chalk-art competition in downtown Grants Pass each summer that draws thousands of visitors.

"This town is very, very, very sup-

years, business was easy and she easily found work through word-of-mouth.

"I moved, and it's true, and I'm thriving," said Gogue, who then added, "as much as you can thrive in this economy. Business has slowed down. I was doing a lot of spec work, but I haven't had a call for six months. I was doing faux finishes, columns. All of the builders were trying to outdo each other. But that came to a screeching halt. People don't have extra money anymore."

Gogue knew she'd have to rely on her marketing background to get more jobs. And that's when Wilsonville came calling.

Kir Whitaker, an organizer for the Festival of Arts, found Art on the Rogue and contacted its organizer, asking for an artist recommendation.

"He sent them my name and I said, 'Yes, I'd love to,'" said Gogue. "Art is about enhancing the quality of life, that's the bottom line to me. I'm excited. I can't wait to come."

Gogue has enjoyed the challenge that chalk art on a sidewalk brings, but acknowledges it has some drawbacks as well.

"Being on your hands and knees in the hot sun for two days, well, your hands get raw," she said. "Sometimes I wrap paper on my fingers because of having to blend chalk into the pavement. It's a challenge, but it's being part of the community. People come around and talk to you. They ask, 'How did you do that?' I also like that it's temporary. By the third day, people are driving on it. It's such an extravagant outlay, and then it's gone."

She cautions that she's not a professional street painter, having only laid chalk to sidewalk four times, but she won trophies for two of her efforts.

The magic is behind the science, she said.

"You just snap off a grid, mark off your square into square foot sections and put your artwork on those same sections," Gogue said. "You sketch

YOU'RE INVITED ...

WHAT: The ninth annual Wilsonville Festival of Arts

WHEN: Saturday-Sunday, May 31-June 1

Location: Wilsonville

WHERE: Wilsonville Town Center Park and Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Center, 2900 SW 10th Place, Wilsonville

using that grid. Then you just start filling it in. You have to plan ahead. Once the chalk is down, it doesn't blow away, but it can smudge if you start walking or kneeling on it."

She recently saw an email from a friend with several pictures of three-dimensional art. Like most people who view it, she wondered, "How did they do that?"

"For me, it's fun for once a year," said Gogue. "It's something different to do."

Sweet paintings got their origins in the 16th century Madonnas, she said, who replicated the masters' paintings on the streets for the common person to view.

"Not only was this an education for the viewer, but also for the artist who was able to study the master's techniques," she said.

Gogue said that good chalk art shouldn't just be something to draw, but should be something that the public can recognize. American gothic, she said, is quite popular at street fairs and is, in fact, a requirement at Art on the Rogue.

"They jury what we do, and you have to submit your art beforehand," she said, "because they don't want the quality to slip."

For Wilsonville, Gogue said she plans to give a few pointers, but just wants festivalgoers to see the possibility that street art can bring.

"To me, it's a hoot," she said. "It's all new too. It's something you can get involved in and it's for anybody who's physically able to get on their hands and knees. I couldn't do it every day, but you can muster up the energy for two days a year. You wear a big straw hat and you keep going until it's done." ■