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ONE SHOW NOT ENOUGH Turns out, the Ocean State's artistic talent will be celebrated in two simultaneous shows

Bill

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ONE SHOW NOT ENOUGH

Turns out, the Ocean State's artistic talent will be celebrated in two simultaneous shows.

BY BILL VAN ZELLEN
Providence Journal Staff Writer

As you may know, the Rhode Island School of Design Museum is celebrating its 100th anniversary. To commemorate the occasion, the museum is hosting two exhibits: "Rhode Island Art: Two Exhibitions Opening at RISD" and "Getting Organized: Rhode Island School of Design Museum at 100," which are currently on view.

"Rhode Island Art: Two Exhibitions Opening at RISD" features works by local artists from the 19th and 20th centuries. The exhibition includes paintings, sculptures, and photographs that showcase the diversity of Rhode Island's artistic heritage.

"Getting Organized: Rhode Island School of Design Museum at 100" highlights the museum's history and collection. The exhibit includes rare objects, documents, and photographs that tell the story of the museum's development.

Both exhibits are open to the public and will run through the end of the year.

A large measure of reality

BY WILLIAM J. GALE
Journal-Warsaw Staff

A 'saw to be expected of the arts. The art world, a cut-and-dried field, is often a source of great beauty and inspiration. But it is also a place where artists can express themselves in ways that are not always easy to understand.

We don't want our audiences to say 'Oh, what a lovely set.' We want to come at the heart of the story. We want them to enter into that world. We don't want to have to explain everything in advance.

Faulkner of the northcountry

BY CAROL McCABE

This is our new issue. Merry days, Chirp-Chirp, it seems. We are in the middle of a long, cold winter. The cold will not last forever. The sun will return and the world will be bathed in light once again.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Journal. As always, we strive to bring you the best in local news and features.

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Turn to OUR Page 4.
Two shows celebrate contemporary R.I. art

Confused from the cover

artists, often attending several gallery openings a night and displaying works by artists he admitted at the RISD Museum.

But there was one thing that even Rob- 

ness, a born risk-taker, did his best to avoid doing. That was missing a comprehensive survey of paintings, sculptures and other artworks by living Rhode Island artists.

"It's basically a no-win situation," 

explained Dan Rosenfeld, curator of painting and sculpture of the RISD Museum. "No matter how good the show is, there are al-

ways going to be feelings, hurt feelings and second-guessing. As a result, the museum's curatorial staff have to deal with a large number of protests, including works by local artists more as trouble than they're worth.

But, Rosenfeld adds, "fools sometimes 

roll in where museum directors dare to tread." In this case, the "fools" were the museum's curatorial staff, who decided to take advantage of the exhibition's opening next week to put together "Salon des Refuses," an exhibition of work by local artists who were rejected from the RISD Museum's "The Overflow Show." The alternative exhibition opens Friday and runs through Sunday.

The first step — deciding when to hold the show — was relatively easy. The open-

ing of the RISD Museum's new "Contemporary Art in Rhode Island." The second step — deciding what to show — was far more difficult. After all, the exhibition was being organized by the museum's curatorial staff, who decided to involve the artists in the process of selecting their work.

The exhibition will be divided into two categories, reflecting the traditional distinc-

tions between fine art and applied art. The first category features works by local artists who are more interested in traditional art than they are in making art that can be sold.

The second category features works by artists who are more interested in making art that can be sold.

Entry forms for the RISD exhibition arrived in the local art community like letter bombs.

The submission form for the exhibition, which the curators dubbed "Contemporary Art in Rhode Island," was put out last January.

They landed in the local art community like letter bombs.

Within a week, the museum was hear-

ing from artists who had been rejected for the show, and from artists who were interested in the show.

"We decided to divide the exhibition into two categories, reflecting the traditional distinctions between fine art and applied art," Rosenfeld said. "The first category is dedicated to contemporary art. The second category is dedicated to contemporary applied art."

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