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The Providence Journal

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## AS220 gallery shows 30 artists' work

February is shaping up as a busy month at local galleries.

In Providence, the **cafe gallery at AS220** is showing works by more than 30 artists who are associated with the downtown arts and performance center. Of special note are the mixed media pieces by Angela Giusti, Tracy Brown and Susan Clausen.

Giusti is represented by a series of small collages that combine old

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### ART WRAPUP

By Bill Van Siclen

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photographs of working women with printed images of seeds and clouds. There's also a wooden shelf lined with bottles marked with emotionally charged labels, such as "trust," "witness" and "sense of self." Not only does this peculiar ensemble show off the artist's skills as a graphic designer, but it functions, in a dreamy, non-linear sort of way, as a meditation on the themes of nature, identity and the healing power of art.

Clausen's entry is a small hanging cabinet decorated with tropical motifs. The doors, for example, feature a pair of flying fish, while the door handles look

like hunks of silvery coral. The colors echo the Caribbean theme: aqua blue for the outside, creamy peach for the inside. It looks like just the place to keep a few cans of conch chowder and a six-pack of Red Stripe beer.

Brown's contribution is a plywood panel on which a giant black bar code is outlined against a red background. A tiny metal label tells us that the code belongs to a recent edition of the Holy Bible, making this a clever conjoining of God and Mammon, faith and finance.

Other highlights include Lisa Hendricks's alternately comic and macabre photographs of dolls and a Bert Crenca's *Crow*; a dark, scatchy painting of the title bird that's both nature study and emotional symbol.

Through Feb. 25 at AS220, 115 Empire St. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 11-4 and Sat. 1-4.

The Cranston-based Society of American Silversmiths can now be reached on-line at <http://www.ids.net/-silvrsmth/sashome.htm>. Web users can ask questions on silver restoration and conservation, get tips on silver care and find listings of silversmithing programs. The society can also be reached via E-mail at [slvrsmth@ids.com](mailto:slvrsmth@ids.com).

Upcoming gallery openings: costume designs by Liz Collins at the Renegade Gallery, 118 Manton St. in Providence, 8:30-10:30 p.m. today; *A Grammar of Collage 2* at the Providence Art Club, 11 Thomas St. 3-5 p.m. Sunday; and paintings by Donnamaria Bruton at the Wheeler Gallery, 228 Angell St. in Providence, 6-8 p.m. Thursday.