



Photo by Ricky Emmons - Photography Editor

Chris Sams, local artist and resident, tests out 3-D glasses on Joshua Spiceland's artwork on display at The Artery in the River Arts District.

3-D mural installment in River Arts District creates buzz

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The Artery, an art gallery in the River Arts District of Asheville, will feature a live mural installation titled "My Name is a Verb," through March 2.

Joshua Spiceland, the sole artist of the "My Name is a Verb" exhibit, said the final result of his exhibit more than satisfied him.

"I love it," Spiceland said.

He explained the show consists of 10 large canvases and about 20 smaller pieces.

"Together, they punctuate a full emersion of mural space," Spiceland. "They're basically floor to ceiling and mostly all executed with acrylic. I started on Tuesday, so I had Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to finish with the installation. I finished last night, had it all done by today and here we are."

"Many of the pieces are inspired by art history," Spiceland said. "A lot was also based off of abstract art as well."

He said he tried to blend abstract with the figurative

work to show everyone he can do both.

"It's something I've always wanted to do, the mural installation," he said. "My friend was actually the one who suggested I do the wall stuff. When I decided to do it, I just took it and ran as far as I could."

Spiceland said he likes how the mural worked really well with specific pieces. "The way the figures kind of come off the page onto the mural is pretty neat, and it was really fun to make," Spiceland said.

Willard Watson, a local art admirer, said he found out about the show through a friend. Watson said he did not have any idea of what this show would be like, but

decided to give it a shot.

"I like the artwork a lot," Watson said. "I was thinking about how long it must have taken him to do all of the mural effects. He definitely put a lot of time and effort into this. Even if the mural wasn't behind it, the way he blends the abstract element with geometric patterns is amazing. His use of color is just as incredible. He is able to really make a landscape with all his artwork."

As an added feature, Spiceland gave out 3-D glasses

"You get your first impression of everything, and then with the (3-D) glasses you get to go back and see it all again in a different way."

Willard Watson
local art admirer

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