

Arts and Features

Artist creates collages with computer

Twentieth-century computers, a far cry from the ancient Chinese abacus and Pascal's 17th-century arithmetic machine, have become an integral part of our society and have a wide variety of users — even artists!

Theresa Marie Rhyne, a computer graphics artist and systems analyst, is displaying her work in the Carolina Union Gallery until August 31, 1989. The exhibit, "Suspended Rotation," combines imaginative collages with colorful computer graphics to produce a unique form of art. Rhyne focuses her computer compositions around the Macintosh microcomputer and its predecessor, the Lisa.

The idea of "Suspended Rotation" represents the computer graphics being moved or rotated on the screen, then frozen for the desired image.

Paul Boyd

Art

Rhyne incorporates the computer graphics with colorful papers, magazine pictures, photographs and various objects, such as yarn and broken guitar strings, to achieve her final product.

"I like to think of myself as a collage artist," Rhyne said. "Collage is a reflection of how a person lives his or her life. A lot of history goes into each piece of my work."

Rhyne's interest in art developed early in life, at the age of 13, when she was heavily influenced by her art teacher during the collage-medium

movement of the 1960s. Although she has experimented with other artistic media, Rhyne found her true forte with collage, which she continues to improve upon as modern computer technology advances.

"My job (as a systems analyst) requires me to be on the cutting edge of technology," she said. "Since computers are constantly changing, I sometimes find myself in computer stores using the latest equipment to create my art. As computer technology improves, my ability to create increases."

Although technology continues to expand and improve, some limitations still exist in computer graphics, especially with regard to resolution. Rhyne said that it is five times more difficult to resolve a graphic image

than to record sound from an instrument, such as a guitar. Some images on the screen may have little or no output and cannot be printed effectively.

Coupled with that degree of difficulty is the time factor. Although each piece may take only a day to complete, a great deal of time is involved in the thought process and creation of the work.

"The abstract artist must be more seasoned," Rhyne said. "One must create and see the image in the mind before transferring it to a concrete medium. It takes a long time to think that way."

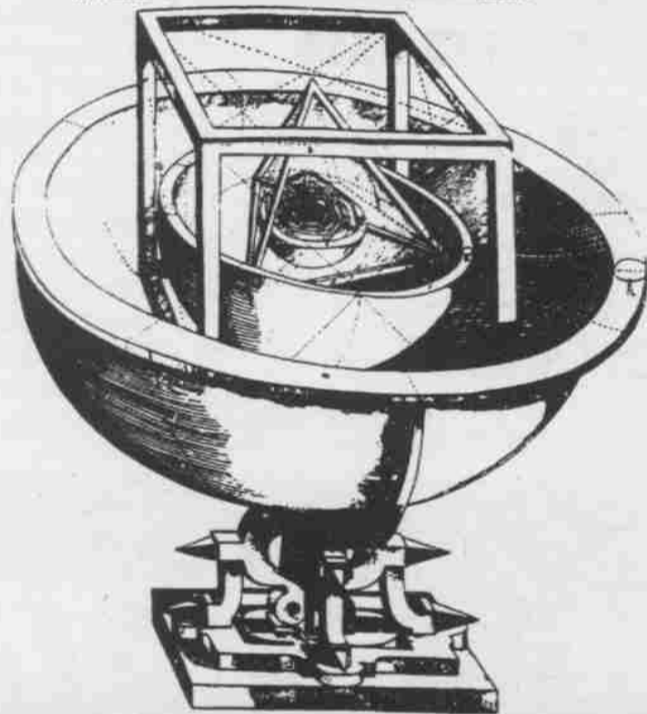
Rhyne became a member of the Palo Alto Art League in 1981 and has continued her artistic endeavors since then. She moved to the Tri-

angle area in June 1987 from Stanford University, in the heart of Silicon Valley, where she received four degrees in engineering. Rhyne was the chief artist on Kids Time II, educational software for children, published by Great Wave Software.

Rhyne has been a visiting artist in the Wake County Art Council's school arts program and has taught workshops at the North Carolina Museum of Art. She spoke on how computer graphics relate to traditional art media at the April 1989 National Art Education Association's Conference in Washington, D.C.

Currently, she is a senior systems requirements analyst for Unysis Corporation at the Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park.

TABULA III. ORBIVM PLANETARIVM DIMENSIONES ET DISTANTIAS PER QVINQUE REVOLVARIA CORPORA GEOMETRICA EXHIBENS. ILLUSTRATA PRINCIPALI AC DNO. DNO. FRIDERICO, DVCI WIR-TEMBERGICO. ET TECTIO. COMITI MONTIS BELGARVM, ETC. COMPARATA.



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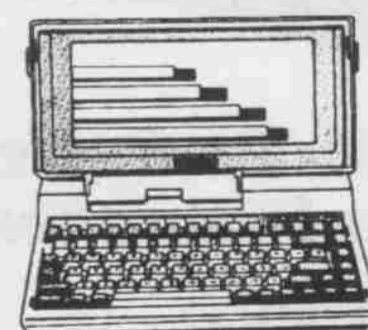


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