

Chavez

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my mind, then I'll work from it as it comes along," Chavez said.

One distinguishable quality in several of Chavez's works is her use of charcoal as well as washes.

"Especially with drawings, I did one where I mixed washes and I did several studies to see how they'd work with charcoal. So it's like a drawing but it looks like a painting," Chavez said. "I think it has different qualities than just a drawing. It's a lot different working with color; a lot more challenging, but fun, and I liked the end product."

Gabe Karabell, a senior history major at UNCA, said he is interested in attending the exhibition, because he's always loved art. He said Chavez sounds like a woman with a clear mission and personal cause.

"I don't think that Chavez is just making art for art's sake. I hope that the work on display will speak to her struggle and the issues she outlines that will make the show hard to ignore," Karabell said.

One of Chavez's favorite pieces she's done, called "Praying Mantis," is another piece of hers that uses wash and charcoal.

She says it's her favorite because she learned a lot going through the process of making the piece.

"I prefer something that I can see the object and keep drawing from it and doing

close-ups and it becoming more organic. I can work without stressing and thinking so much; I can just work and it happens. It just feels natural to me," she said.

When talking about art, Chavez said that she uses it as an escape from the everyday world.

"I think it's like an outlet for me and I can choose what I feel on paper. It doesn't have to look like the object or inspiration; it becomes something in itself, even if it's just a person, a purse or a shoe.

"At the end, it'll be a drawing and you don't have to know what it is, it just gives you a certain feeling," Chavez said.

An opening reception for Chavez's work will be held tomorrow from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery. At 7 p.m., Chavez will be there to talk about her experiences and work.

"I've learned through experience that you don't have to like it to be art, and there's very wide range to do different types of art.

"It's mostly a personal feeling of what you do and how you present it, and that's what makes it a good piece and composition. If you believe in what you're doing, than it'll work out," Chavez said.

Ramsey Library's Blowers Gallery is open during regular library hours.

Indigo Girls

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songs in their acoustic incarnations is just a completely different experience than listening to them with the band. I think it's nice for fans to be able to hear both."

The Indigo Girls worked on "Poseidon and the Bitter Bug" with producer and keyboardist Mitchell Froom, who recorded on the album as well.

"He started working with us on the record before "Poseidon," and he really shifted us," Saliers said. "He's a very good musical arranger, and he brings the best essence out of the songs. He never over-produces, and he's very choosy about what notes to pick, and everything has its place in the musical spectrum."

The songs on "Poseidon," according to Saliers, have a sense of immediacy while also being characteristically unfettered.

"The acoustic CD, that's basically what the songs sounded like after Amy and I were done arranging them. Then, with the band, the sound is more flushed out," Saliers said. "I think people like having access to both versions."

The pair began their own independent label, IG Recordings, on which "Poseidon" was released.

According to Saliers, after the girls were dropped from Hollywood Records, they realized that their own relationships

with radio and concert promoters might better serve them.

"We just realized that it was absolutely the time to be independent," she said of the new label. "We feel very liberated and very grateful for it. You know there are a lot of bands out there now that labels can't do for them what they could do in a different era."

Michelle Malone, out with her latest CD, "Debris," is scheduled as the opening act. Malone will be joining The Indigo Girls on stage for several songs in the set, according to Saliers.

"People shouldn't miss her. She's got a new record out that's great," Saliers said. "We just really want to make sure people don't miss Michelle's set cause she's killer."

Tickets for the show at The Orange Peel are \$38 advance or \$40 at the door. An all ages show, doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m.

"The basic approach to music is the same as it ever was. We write our songs, come together, we arrange them and then we just get out there and play," Saliers said. "It's super fun, and we have this audience that has just held us up over the years."

Organicfest

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growing if you have the land and ask the right people.

"You can ask someone a specific question and the response they're going to give you reflects all the mistakes they've made," he said.

Another farmer at the market, Tom Elmore, owns Thatchmore Farms. It has been organic since he started it in 1987.

"The national program came in six or seven years ago," he said. Before that, the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association certified his farm as organic.

Now, Quality Certification Services, a group out of Gainesville, Fla., certifies his farm.

Elmore also participates at Organicfest. "I'm usually there with the Organic Growers booth," he said.

Elmore is on the board of directors for the Carolina Growers Association, a coalition of area organic growers, he said. They hold another farming event, the True Nature Country Fair, every fall and spring.

"This year it's moving to UNCA in the spring," he said.

The fall event will happen Sept. 26 and 27, in Barnardsville, he said.

A volunteer at the food market, Carolyn Lowry, moved to Asheville three

"Our community is full of amazing and wonderful things. One of them is people pushing the limits on growing food organically. It's an enormous amount to have in our community."

— Paul Littman

weeks ago. She worked at the Center for Environmental Farming Systems, a southeastern farming research institute near North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State, before moving here.

"It's the only organization of its kind in the southeast," she said.

Lowry, 26, is a part-time student at UNCA. She has experience with eating organic on a budget.

"There are a number of community gardens in Asheville," she said. "Asheville is really friendly for those who want the (organic) experience. There's even a community garden at UNCA."

Lowry sold T-shirts Saturday morning as a fundraiser for the tailgate market. She said that the same sort of approach is possible for college students who want organic food but don't have the money.

"Sometimes you can work on a farm in exchange for food," Lowry said, "and coming here to buy fruit is really affordable."

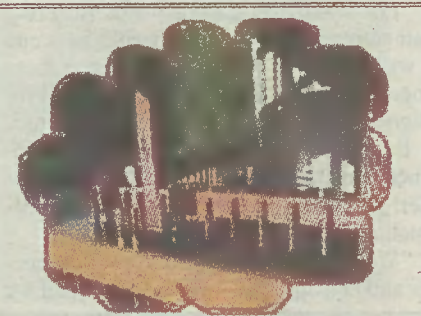
Accessibility was the theme that united Athos and Elmore, too. "We try to support all the organic farmers," Athos said. "A lot of farmers don't spray, but aren't certified organic."

Elmore said that he mostly wants people to eat locally.

"I think it's a free choice for the consumer, and I think it's a free choice for the farmer," he said.

Athos said that she thinks that sentiment is OK for people who cannot spend much more on food.

"We can make a huge impact on the health of our country every time we take out our wallet," she said.



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