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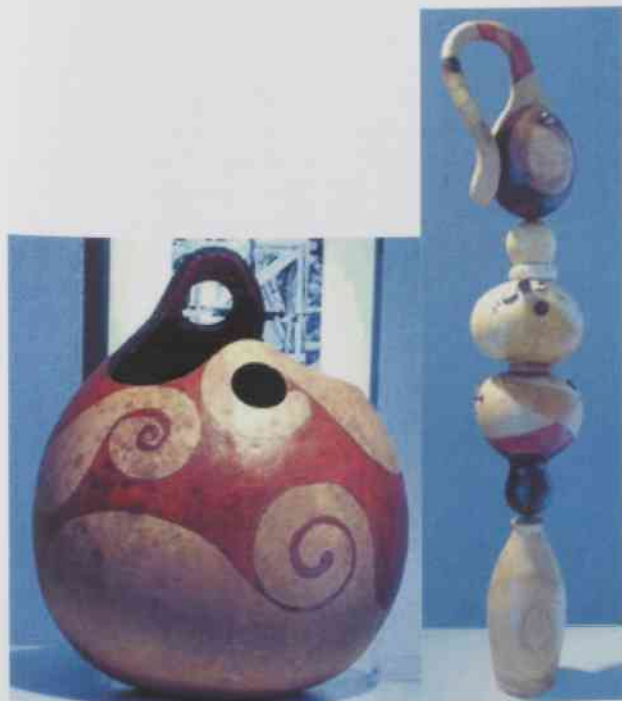
Arts & Entertainment

Gallery Opening

By Katherine Berube
10-27-04

The gallery opening featuring Robert and Hannah Poe opened recently in the Spiers Gallery in the Simms Art Building. The show features sculptures and mobiles made from gourds, photomontage and vibrant paintings. Hannah Poe created her sculptures from dried gourds that have been wood-burned and stained or painted. These beautiful sculptures are inspired by Native American pottery, featuring many natural themes and organic designs. Robert Poe, a former Brevard drawing and painting professor, created photomontages, or collages of photographs, with various images such as gourds and staircases. His paintings are colorful and vibrant acrylic paint on stretched canvas.

Robert and Hannah Poe live in Greenville, South Carolina and they are professors at Lander University.



Open Handle Basket

Twirling Totem

The Grudge

By Matt Rutherford
11-10-04

Make sure to strap yourself in when you go see "The Grudge". This is just a minor precaution to prevent you from jumping out of your seat every time a character looks or the camera moves around a corner. "The Grudge" is the one of the best Halloween feature ghost films of the new century. Takashi Shimizu stylishly reinvents Ju On: The Grudge for the American public.

The main setting is a house on the outskirts of Tokyo, which was the scene of several deaths and tragedies. The evil from these events lingers in this house, and its dark curse will capture and latch on to any who enter its frightening confines. However as usual the main question that everyone asks about a horror flick is: What makes it so scary? In this case it is not what you see but more what you glimpse and hear. For example: Quick flashes of ghostly apparitions, sounds of footsteps creaking doors, and the infamous screeching string ensemble playing in the back ground.

Sarah Michelle Gellar plays Karen, an American exchange student in Japan who works for a social care agency. Its Karen who stumbles upon the secret of the house when she is assigned to check on a patient after the previous social worker has gone missing. She finds herself in an unsettling position, with an elderly woman who cannot speak and a boy who vanishes and makes cat noises. Shimizu has put such a great effort into making the visual aspect of the movie that he forgets the story and that the common American is not quite so well read on Japanese folklore and legends. The legends stem from ancient Japanese history and mystical traditions. For example, it is said in Japan that when someone dies in the grip of a great and terrible rage, a curse is left behind, and it never forgets. This lets the house itself become a character. Its looks quite beautiful but at the same time there is definitely an eerie feel about the house. Not to mention the interior is very bleak, colorless and empty, leaving the house open for those oh-so-fun bumps in the night. Some people will find the open-ended finale a major disappointment. But one must consider that the original film spawned two sequels, which did just as well in the box office as the first film. It is speculated that the studio that made the film is keeping its options open. Never the