

# The Pendulum

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Heather Whitehouse/The Pendulum

Brumbaugh's stained glass alterpiece is on display in Whitley Auditorium

## Brumbaugh inspired by fire Alterpiece provides focal center

Deborah Durkee  
The Pendulum

In July 1989, Pam Brumbaugh experienced a fire. She and her husband, Chalmers, were clearing away some bushes in the yard.

They doused a bush with gasoline and set it on fire. "The thing exploded and fire came all the way up and burned my eyebrows, got in my hair," Brumbaugh said.

She had second degree burns from about four inches above her ankle down to her toes. "But what I remember from that moment of the explosion and the fire, is the color," Brumbaugh said.

That frightening experience culminated in the brilliant, multi-colored burning bush stained glass on display every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at the college chapel in

Whitley Auditorium.

Brumbaugh, who is director of Experiential Education at Elon, is a stained glass artist. Her untitled piece is a triptych, a free-standing, portable alterpiece commissioned by Elon Chaplain Richard McBride.

Brumbaugh describes the piece. "A fiery bush and a descending dove with tear-drop jewels and a red eye and iridescent feathers, ribbons of flame, a subliminal world behind that unites the whole piece."

McBride, who is in his seventh year at the college, had wanted an alterpiece for some time. "Whitley has a history as a place of worship," McBride said. "The church which is located across the campus started in Whitley. So Whitley looked a lot more like a place of worship for much of its history."

The old Whitley had an auditorium feel, but it also had a focal center, McBride said. "And I think that's what the alterpiece provides, a focal center."

Brumbaugh and McBride teamed up in the conception of the piece. "The burning bush emerged early because it's an example of what theologians call a theophany - the presence of God revealed," McBride said.

McBride uses banners in his chapel service. One refers to God's words emanating from the burning bush, "I am who I am." This is an Old Testament reference. The other banner is a New Testament reference, "God is Love."

"So we felt like we were balancing out both halves of the Judeo-Christian story with those two banners," McBride said. "And

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## Homecoming '90, really "groovy"

Dana Manley  
The Pendulum

Homecoming 1990 should be "groovy" after a week full of events that center around the theme, "Return to the 60s," commemorating the class of 1965.

"I think there are probably more things planned for this homecoming than any other year," said Ray Covington, a member of the developmental office staff. "It shows that we're expanding and offering more to the alumni."

Alumni of all ages who come "home" to Elon this weekend will have more than the game to look

forward to. Reunions, receptions, and the annual golf tournament are among the many planned events.

Along with honoring returning alumni, homecoming is full of activity for Elon's students and organizations. Many of the week's events including the floats, skits, and Banner Day will be used to help determine which organization's candidate will become queen Saturday. All students can participate in choosing the queen through voting and donating money to the penny drive.

Proceeds from the penny drive  
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## Broadway Bound heads for the big city

Kelly Potter  
The Pendulum

"Broadway Bound," a new winter term travel course, will offer students the chance to explore and experience New York City, Jan. 14-21.

It isn't a typical trip to the big city. "It's kind of like being on the inside," said Catherine McNeela, a new Assistant Professor of Music and one of two faculty members who will be on the trip.

Activities include tickets to three Broadway and two Off-Broadway shows, backstage tours, informal meetings with actors and other theatre professionals and free time for personal exploration, museums, shopping and sightseeing.

Students will study and familiarize themselves with New York City and the plays they will be going to see beforehand. McNeela plans on taking a day for learning how to be safe and get around New York.

"It's important to not be down

in the subway with your head in a map," McNeela said.

McNeela has spent the past three years in New York as a professional actress in New York City theatre, film and television. She is currently working to develop a Music Theatre program at Elon and is also teaching voice.

"It seems so natural for me to go. I can't wait to show everyone the town!" McNeela said.

"I'm really looking forward to it. I hope we get the enrollment so we can go."

Also on faculty for the course is Fred Rubeck, Assistant Professor of Fine Arts. He has also worked professionally as an actor, director, manager and playwright. Locally, he is credited for *The Dining Room*, *South Pacific*, and *Man of LaMancha*.

"We haven't selected the specific plays yet," Rubeck said.

"We want to select from the most current offerings next season."

McNeela would like to see the group get to see, *City of Angels*,

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