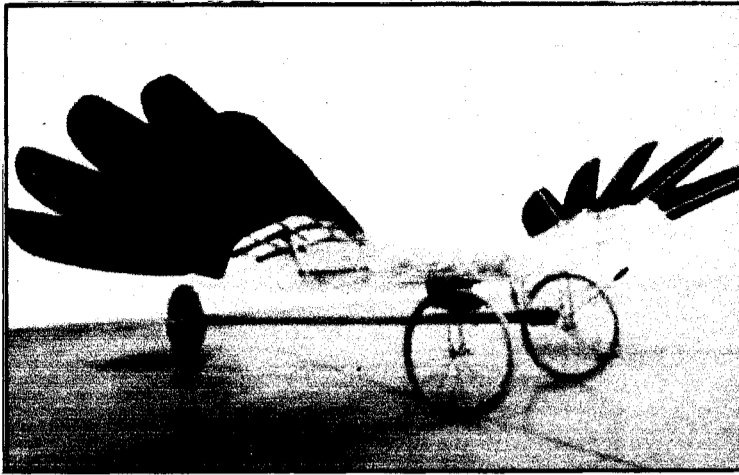


Art cont. from Page 1

Raven's Variable Matrix is a small make shift airplane. *Super Pepto Bismo* resembles a jet pack with propellers. Both *Raven's Variable Matrix* and *Super Pepto Bismo* have not been tested, however, Panamarenko is convinced that they would work if tested.

My favorite of this collection is *Archaeopteryx IV*. The archaeopteryx is considered to be the first bird. The wings of this piece are covered with small solar panels. The solar panels on the wings generate electricity, which is passed to the feet and makes archaeopteryx walk. It is securely fastened in its display case and there are no signs of struggling.

Rosemary Laing's *Flight Research* series of photographs feature a skydiving bride. *Flight Research #5* features the bride in mid



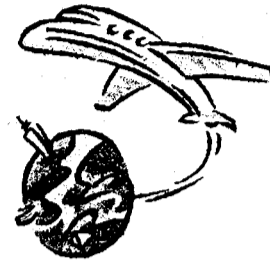
Raven's Variable Matrix, by Panamarenko
photo courtesy of N.C. Museum of Art

flight and the museum has chosen this photograph to represent the exhibition. There are many hypotheses on how these photographs were shot. The one I feel to be most likely is the camera and a trampoline were placed in a location relatively high and the images of the bride were captured while she jumped on the trampoline. The pictures are amazing nonetheless. I also think that they definitely capture the spirit and beauty of the exhibition.

Defying Gravity: Contemporary Art and Flight will run through March 7, 2004. Admission to this exhibition is \$7.50 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, and free for Museum members and children 12 and under. Student groups are admitted free by advance reservation. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster at (919) 834-4000 or www.ticketmaster.com. You may also call the Museum Box Office at (919) 715-5923.

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These awards are available for summer, semester, and year-long
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who have truly outstanding records in both academics and
service/leadership, potential applicants should be advised that these
grants are extremely competitive. The student's own statement of her
reasons for wanting to study abroad and the use to which she intends
to put what she gains from that experience also weigh heavily in the
committee's decision.

Deadline for applying is February 21.

World News Briefs

AUDREY TAMER
Staff Writer

China

This winter Asia is being threatened by the similar diseases of SARS and the bird flu. Recently, there was four unconfirmed cases in Vietnam and two confirmed cases in China of SARS. The most pressing threat to the Asian community stands to be avian influenza-commonly referred to as the bird flu. The disease is highly infectious; however, none of the confirmed cases thus far have been contracted by person to person contact. Rather, the disease has been prevalent in the chicken population. Authorities are concerned because the disease can kill tens of thousands in a mild year and as many as hundreds of thousands in a bad year. The H5N1 strain is the most dangerous form of the

disease.

Kenya

The Sudan has been accused of closing camps for people that are displaced within the area. They are suspected of moving the people to an unsafe camp. Thousands of people were moved to the new camp by truck. Especially in the area of Darfur, the part of the region having trouble. Two groups have been conducting revolts in the region since last February. They are accusing the government of overlooking the area's concerns surrounding its economic condition.

France

Conflict surfaced in Paris over recent deliberations concerning a proposed law that would ban religious symbols from French public schools. The most outspoken people

against the law have been Muslims. The new law would include the restriction of Muslim head scarves, Jewish yarmulkes, and oversized crosses in the schools. The protests were not limited to within the French borders. Protestors were active from London to Baghdad.

Spain

Spanish courts have ordered the owner of an alternative club to make social security payments for twelve girls that are employed there as prostitution. The Spanish government does not regulate nor prohibit prostitution within the country. Last summer, area prostitutes marched in demand for labor rights. Because the women had regular hours, rented space for their personal belongings and received a measurable share of drink sales, they were said to have an

employment relationship which constitutes social security payments. Opposition to the decision claims that the women work in the "hotels" and rented rooms as clients who entertain guests. The prostitute population counts for 300,000 people, generating a \$22 billion dollar market.

Mexico

Osbaldo Torres' date for execution has passed, but as a result of intervention by the Hague, Torres date has been postponed indefinitely. Torres remains in jail convicted of murder in McAlester, Oklahoma. His execution date postponement is at the request of the Mexican government. Torres is only one of fifty-two scheduled executions in eight states that are being challenged by the Mexican government. The case made by Mexican authorities argues that the

convicts did not receive the immediate opportunity to meet with Mexican diplomats.

Jerusalem

Yigal Ramir, the failed assassin of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, has made plans to marry Larisa Trimbobler while he is in prison. She has four children and has been visiting Ramir in prison for the past year. Ramir is currently serving a life sentence without parole in solitary confinement.

