

"Trick or Treat"

Stark Reality

by C.A. Whittemore

"Fine Arts, Art Space," an exhibit of art works by Sharon Harper, opened at The Gallery Fridholm July 5. The theme of Harper's acrylic/pastel and pencil drawings and paintings is the dysfunctional family.

Through her choice of titles, line drawing techniques, color schemes and placement of characters on the canvas, Harper creates the scenario of abuse, oppression, repression, etc., and the tone of fear, anger, helplessness and frustration. The drama of Harper's creations is not confined to a frozen moment of activity on canvas. The images convey to the viewer the history of activity that led up to the scene, and the anticipation of what the future holds.

Harper's exhibit brings the issues and dynamics of family dysfunction out of the closet. For anyone who has experienced a dysfunctional family or has been close to someone who has, this exhibit will be particularly poignant and compelling.

Be prepared. "Fine Arts, Art Space" is not lighthearted fare. Those who are particularly sensitive to the issues of family dysfunction may want to allow some processing time after viewing. Don't be intimidated by the nature of these works, however. The exhibit is excellent and should not be missed.

Harper's work may be viewed Tuesday through Saturday from 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM at The Gallery Fridholm on Broadway (across from Stone Soup) in Asheville. The exhibit will run through August 25.



"Captive Audience"

Aunt Pearl and Friends Delight ACT Audience

Kiffin Madden (Earl Willis) made his first appearance at Asheville Community Theater in July in *Greater Tuna*, a hysterical play in which 20 characters are played by only two actors. Kiffin, a former drama teacher, brought talent and humor to the production. Both actors amazed the audience with their quick costume changes.

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