NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

“Illusion and Metaphor”

A Thesis Submitted to the
University Honors Program
In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements of the Baccalaureate Degree

With University Honors

School of Art

by

Shannon Joy Burch

Dekalb, Illinois

December 17, 1995
Student name: Shannon Burch
Approved by: W. Bearl
Department of: Art
Date: Jan 30/96
HONORS THESIS ABSTRACT
THESIS SUBMISSION FORM

AUTHOR: Shannon Borch

THESIS TITLE: "Illusion and Metaphor"

ADVISOR: Richard Beard

DISCIPLINE: Art

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ADVISOR'S DEPT: Painting

YEAR: 1995

ILLUSTRATED: Yes

LIST PUBLICATION:

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ABSTRACT (100-200 WORDS):
The student will put on a one-person art show at NIU’s Music Building gallery. It will consist of paintings done in this and previous years, reworked and framed and matted to be suitable for display. Publicity, announcements, framing of paintings and lighting of the show will be arranged by the student. There will be an opening reception where the teacher will evaluate the execution of the show.
Paintings in Oil and Acrylic

by

Shannon Burck

November 12-18
Reynolds Whitney Art Gallery
Music Building, 1st Floor

Opening Reception 1:00 P.M.
Sunday, November 12, 1995
Artist’s Statement

In my work, I explore how using illusions and metaphors can change the way people perceive things. Illusions appear one way at first, and then the perception of them changes. In a way, they can be two things at once. A painting based on an illusion can multiple meanings based on the differing perceptions of it. Using metaphors has a similar effect, as the painting exists as a straightforward rendering and also as the metaphor it represents. I feel this duality lends depth to a piece, and encourages the viewer to find meaning beyond the obvious.

Paintings

2. What’s Eating You II. Acrylic.
4. The Death of Venus. Oil.
5. Contemplation I. Acrylic.
6. Contemplation II. Acrylic.
Passing through the Music Building, the work of Sharon Burch catches the eye of Pam Possa, a NIU junior, in the Reynolds White Art Gallery.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dominick Sambou</td>
<td>Unnamed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Hargrove</td>
<td>Agnew 12th, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Petersen</td>
<td>Bunch, more alert, nice cooker, very interesting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td>This is the best part I've ever had along me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Wright</td>
<td>Fresh, white, does relate to it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Bass</td>
<td>Thanks for a great friendship, come!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Hopkins</td>
<td>10 years of friendship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Speer</td>
<td>I'm just that, I completely understand but I think you're wonderful anyway, congrats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the stuff for sale?
Name
Corne Swart
Date
Dec 18, 1995
Comment
Very nice - interesting

Name
Jen B
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment
Just finished the first five figures. We enjoyed looking

Name
Marta Gilmore
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment
Enjoyed looking at this & talking about it. My daughter

Name
Jen B
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment
I really liked the color of exterior.

Name
Chris T
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment
Beautiful! - Great way to express

Name
Steph F
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment
Interesting - would love to see more

Name
Steph F
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment

Name
Steph F
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment

Name
Steph F
Date
Feb 4, 1996
Comment

Name: Rick Klineberger  
Date:  
Comment: Wow! I can't stop going by and looking at those wonderful paintings. In the past, I have failed to enjoy most visual art, but I think now I can start to understand the meaning. I especially like the use of just rusty blues, greens and yellows. It seems to give it a certain theme. My favorite one is Blue Sky. It really shows emotion and feeling. Good luck in the future.

Name: Brad Howard  
Date:  
Comment: All of your shapes and colors come together and combine very well. I really enjoy the effect that your style has on me. Good Job!

Name: Mary Sadler  
Date:  
Comment: I'm really glad I came to take a look at your show. I am really impressed! Especially 

Name: Carol Nash  
Date:  
Comment: #9 spoke to me

Name: Mary Ann  
Date:  
Comment: #9 is my favorite

Name: Brad Howard  
Date:  
Comment: Hi! this got! 

Name: Sue Mangels  
Date:  
Comment: Lots of feeling great job!

Name: Ben Wilson  
Date:  
Comment: I really enjoy your gestural style. Especially in the oil like paintings. Keep the conceptual painting flowing. You really have some fantastic ideas. Thankyou.
Joseph Odoi

Chris Lynch

David Bush

Tammy Towle

I like very much Stewart, you
work has charm always any.
I would like the new color.
Back in your work, I dig
the size too. I feel you
will go a long way. I will
be watching for you in my
"real world." Keep on tryng

Wow! I love this art. Pursue this career.
You’re on the right track. The art
sets up feelings in me that have been
missing for a while. They represent how
I think and feel. Are you a psychic?
Thank you.

Only one word suffices. Wow!

I have always admired your work
in class. How lovely it is to see it shown. Keep working— you only
seem to get better and better!
Good luck! :)

Like your colors! The child they draw.