

Former UNLV student opens art exhibit at CCSN

The Rebel Yell

Doug Travis' art exhibit, *The Books*, is currently open to the public at the Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN) Art Gallery and runs through Sept. 30. On Sept. 29, there will be a workshop at noon in room 2208, a lecture in the gallery from 5 to 6 p.m. and a closing reception from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Books includes a collection of Travis' handmade books and installations from 1995 to this year.

"Most of us discover mail long before postage," says Travis. "The early mail, when we draw a line on a page and hand it to a parent, is about exploring communication through creativity. In time, our mail becomes a kind of proof, the personal and professional signature of ourselves. It conveys a summary of our experience and evidence of our commitment."

Travis feels these books and installations are made with the same sensibility. "I have always depended on mail," he continues, "not only for the usual purpose of communication, but for the promises that I find there."

"There is something intimate about making books, that is not determined by their size, or the fact you hold them in the heart of your hand." The intimacy comes from the necessity of making them. It is at the moment when they no longer belong to the author, but to any hands that open the cover, that books become like mail. Even for these finished, one-of-a-kind books, their fate remains fluid, dependent, like all art, upon an interaction with an audience."

Travis has exhibited his work throughout the United States and received many awards, including first place for printmaking at UNLV in 1998. He studied at Ball State University, Herron School of Art, Indianapolis Art Center and UNLV.

The CCSN Art Gallery is free to the public and is wheelchair accessible. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The gallery is located on CCSN's Cheyenne campus at 3200 E. Cheyenne Ave., one mile east of I-15 North. For more information, call 651-4113.



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