

ARTS

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Energetic colors, abstracts, jazz up Horace house

Eugene J. Martin
Mixed media exhibit

Mon-Fri, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sun 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
Through Sept. 30

Horace Williams House
610 E. Rosemary St.

Free admission
For information, 962-1449

Eugene Martin's paintings echo like wild laughter through the dignified Horace Williams House.

Martin uses layers of bright colors in a slightly garish but overwhelmingly energetic manner. In "Traditional Entertainment," turquoise, red, green and yellow shapes overlap to create more colors and complicated patterns. The colors generate a spirited and chaotic mood, as do the shapes he chooses.

The shapes are arranged so tightly in the space that many pieces resemble outlandish machines, intertwined, pushing and pulling.

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EMMA WILLIAMS

Considered separately, the elements of Martin's works are a bundle of contradictions. Forms are alternately natural and geometric, abstracted and idealized. The lines are full of movement and energy, yet trapped in a flat surface.

The most impressive aspect of the exhibit is Martin's use of juxtaposition. In the acrylic paintings, the contrast is one of wispy textures overlapping solid forms. For instance, in "Two Divorce Lawyers" the shapes are flat, but the paint is blended so that they reach through each other, projecting a subtle conflict.

Working in pen and ink, Martin describes simple shapes with crisp edges, and juxtaposes abstracts. In "Doctor and chicken," a flat, black and white naked, contorted human body contrasts with a much smaller interstate directly beneath her. "Doctor" shows Martin's playfulness and spontaneity.

So for a healthier substitute for coffee, go get a jolt from Martin's multi media montages, paintings and drawings.



Eugene Martin's art lights up Horace Williams House through September