

"SMALL MATTERS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE" HOPPER HOUSE ART CENTER

Highlighted work: Carole Golden's mixed media in a bell jar, "Asylum," which measures 11 inches by 11 inches by 11 inches.

The show: Hopper House is continuing its celebration of the 40th annual "Year of Edward Hopper" with this exhibit, the 18th annual, which explores small works (less than 12 inches in any direction) that "pays homage to Hopper by exploring the interior/exterior relationship in an original way and revealing his far-reaching influence," says Carole Perry, the executive director.

One of the requirements of the juried show — jurors are Avis Berman and Elizabeth Thompson Colleary — is that the work displayed has never been shown at Hopper House before, al-

though 10 of the artists have exhibited here in the past.

Two are from Nyack, and nearly half are from New York City, but Rockland is well represented. There are also artists from the Hudson Valley, Pennsylvania, California, Idaho, Massachusetts, Maryland and Germany. Each has contributed two or three works that include drawings, oils, steel sculpture, acrylics, mixed media, photography, print, paper relief and one video.

Why this piece: Perry says "Asylum" exemplifies the premise of this show, which takes its cues from Hopper's interplay between interiors and exteriors — whether physical spaces or psychological states. "The artist has taken the language of Hopper and made it her

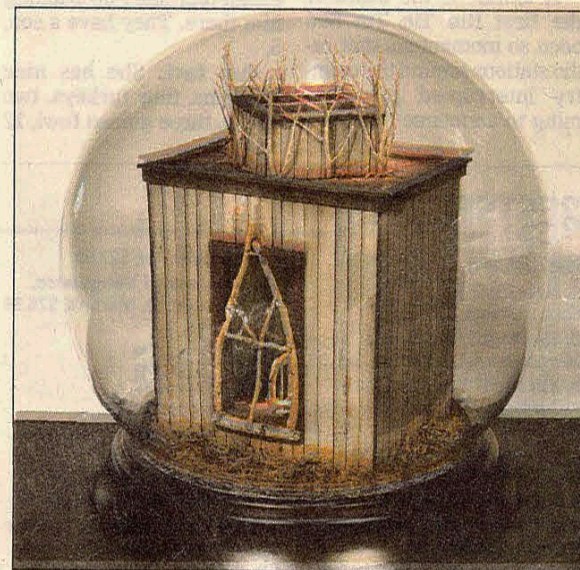
own," says Perry. "In this work, we are clearly outsiders looking into this private interior. The title, 'Asylum,' reinforces the insider/outsider positions and because there is no means of entry or exit, there is a seemingly permanent state of separation."

The back story: Golden mainly works in collage, and her main theme is narrative, with a focus on fairytales. But lately her work is becoming three-dimensional, like this piece. By placing her visual illusions under bell jars, she says in her artist statement, "there is no actual means of entry or escape. These claustrophobic settings invite the viewer into a disquieting realm in miniature."

What else to see: Perry

also recommends Lynn Miller's mixed media work "Automat," where, she says, the interior space represents imprisonment, and the exterior space occupied by the man suggests freedom and power. Also of note is Shelly Hamilton's pencil on transparency, "Yellow Door," which is just 6 1/2 by 5 inches. "The room may be an interior space, or perhaps we are outside and the door leads to the interior," says Perry. "Whichever position we take, the viewer is yet further excluded from the scene by way of the grid, acting as a screen."

Details: 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday and runs through Nov. 13. Admission: \$5 general admission; \$3 seniors. Edward Hopper House Art Center, 82



N. Broadway, Nyack. 845-358-0774, www.edwardhopperhouse.org. The next exhibit this fall is "Reasons to Paint," from Nov. 19-Dec. 24.

The exhibit asks Nyack High School students to respond to Edward Hopper's work using the medium of paint.

— Liz Johnson

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