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Latest ArtStreet show gives rare view of snowflakes, bees and the cosmos.

By Pamela Dillon Contributing Writer

Sunday, March 01, 2009

Did you ever want to see a fruit fly up close and personal?

How about a tick chomping down on human skin, or a macro image of a honeybee licking a drop of sugar water?

These images aren't as aesthetically pleasing as some of the others in the current ArtStreet exhibit at the University of Dayton, but they do provide a fascinating look at science and nature.

Scott Streiker, coordinator of UD's Nano Engineering Science and Technology Lab, captured the image of a fruit fly's head at 120 magnification via scanning electron photomicrograph. This image was created as part of student training on a high-resolution scanning electron microscope for a graduate biology course.

"Images from Science 2" includes microscopic images of bacteria, computer chips and snowflakes; also rare views of space, the human eye, and even a fetus inside the womb. Stop by and see these along with dozens of other photographs at UD's ArtStreet Studio D Gallery, Studio C, and Cafe.

The traveling exhibit first debuted at the Rochester Institute of Technology last October.

"We strive with our programming to show interdisciplinary connectiveness of the arts," said Susan Byrnes, ArtStreet director. "When we had the opportunity to bring this show to ArtStreet, it was a perfect fit. This show is in partnership with UD-RI right here on campus. These images are quite beautiful, and they do reflect research images from many different fields."

The exhibition of 61 photographs provides a spectacular view of discoveries and research in a variety of scientific disciplines including astronomy, biology, engineering, medicine, oceanography, physics and nanotechnology. An international selection committee chose the final images from more than 300 entries based on their scientific content, aesthetics and difficulty.

Jim Wehtje's "Electra Water Lily" gets an A+ for aesthetics and difficulty. The Rochester, N.Y., photographer digitally edited 70 radiographs for one image using Faxitron X-ray equipment and mammography film with

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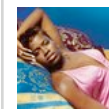
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post-capture colorization.

Vibrant images of the cosmos are plentiful in this show. Zoltan Levay's contribution records the light echo of a red supergiant star's sudden brightening in 2004, obtained through an ACS camera onboard NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Celestial beauty is remarkable in an astrophotograph of the Orion Nebula, also courtesy of NASA and submitted by Robert R. Hurt.

This show is an encore to the Science exhibit that debuted in 2002, subsequently hosted by 23 organizations in seven different countries. The idea for the exhibit came from Michael Peres and Andrew Davidhazy, photographic arts and science professors at RIT.

"The first exhibit's longevity can be attributed to the stunning photographs that depict life as it is seldom seen by the general public," Davidhazy said.

"With this second exhibit, we wanted to once again emphasize to the photographic community that images made other than for artistic purposes can be appreciated not only for their scientific content, but also for their aesthetics."

How to go

What: "Images from Science 2" an exhibition of scientific photography

Where: University of Dayton's ArtStreet on the 300 block of Kiefaber St.

When: Continues through March 26

More information: (937) 229-5101 or <http://artstreet.>

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