

*University hosts
airborne work by
German artist*

BY ANDY TIPPIN
LIFE WRITER

The latest exhibit at the Duncan Gallery of Art in Sampson Hall is two-fold, one being a show entitled "The Shelley Cycle," the other being articles from the Florida Sky Piece performance last year over Germany.

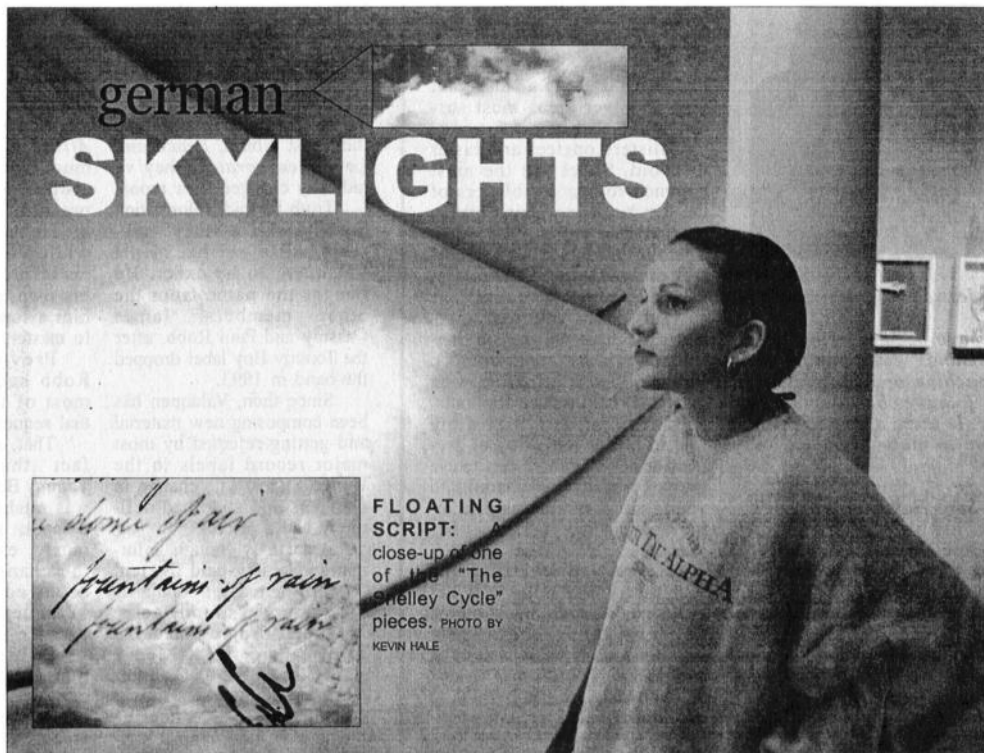
Both exhibits are the brainchild of German art professor Michael Klant.

"The Shelley Cycle" is an interesting illustration of Percy Bysshe Shelley's poetry. The piece consists of international sky photographs overlaid with cast-shadow excerpts from Shelley's nineteenth-century poem "The Cloud."

The effect of the work overall is an impression of words floating in the sky, words that seek heaven among the clouds. The fact that the poem is in Shelley's handwriting just adds to the flowing cloud effect.

Klant's other exhibit is the remnants, silk-screens, box constructions and even the huge banner involved in his sky performance over Germany.

The performance was this: Klant reproduced in great detail a photograph of a Florida summer sky, full of fluffy clouds. This reproduction, in the form of a sixty-foot long banner, was tied to a small plane and



SKY VIEW: Michelle DiPenta surveys the banner used in 'Florida Sky Piece' by Michael Klant. PHOTO BY KEVIN HALE

flown over Freiburg, Germany. In the Duncan Gallery there are various pictures of the flight, and even books containing a write-up and pictures available for purchase.

At the end of the performance, the sky banner was released over a field, sending the one sky spiraling through the other sky and finally landing in a heap.

Even though it is not traveling through the sky anymore, the Florida sky banner is still most impressive. Draped in the middle of the Duncan gallery, it is the first thing to catch a

patron's eye on the way in.

Amusingly enough, the way it is draped inspires both children and those with childlike tendencies to want to crawl under it.

At the opening reception last Monday, Klant showed a video detailing the construction and planning phases of the flight over Germany. Even though the video was in German, it still informed about the processes behind these performances.

Klant himself provided the translation for a while, explaining to students and faculty what it was like to breathe life into a sky. President Lee himself was on hand to view the works of the international artist.

The Florida

sky piece performance, this time with a German sky to be flown over Florida, was to be repeated last Saturday.

Unfortunately our wonderful weather systems decided in advance that the flight would not take place, and so the exhibit has been delayed.

At press time there was no news of a rescheduling. Klant's banner for the Florida performance is much larger than the one he used over Germany, which will make it all the more impressive when the performance takes place.

Klant's exhibit will be showing at the Duncan Gallery of Art in Sampson Hall until Oct. 6. For details about the scheduling of the flight over Florida, contact the art department at extension 7100.

Andy Tippin is a senior majoring in theatre arts.



HEAVENLY TRIPTYCH: Words from Shelley's poem "The Cloud" appear to float over Michael Klant's photography with the help of cable and Plexiglas. PHOTO BY KEVIN HALE

live WEBCASTING

For the 'German Sky Piece' Michael Klant has been working with university students to also provide live wireless webcasting of the event from an accompanying chase plane.

Find more information on the collaboration at:

<http://reporter.stetson.edu/klant/>

SOURCE: OFFICE OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF