

Jon Ray Smith
Sculpture
January 19 – March 3, 2007
Opening Reception Thursday, January 19 from 5:30-7:30
Artist's Talk: Wednesday, February 7 from 12:30-1:30

Green Hill Center for North Carolina art is excited to open its 2007 season with a one-person exhibition of the work of Jon Ray Smith. Smith employs a variety of sculptural mediums to explore process and abstract form. This exhibition will include works dating from 2003 to the present composed of materials as diverse as umbrellas, knitting needles and optical lenses. The focus of the exhibition will be Smith's cast metal sculpture. The artist's interest in geometry and nature led him to develop casting techniques that allow a more direct manipulation of form and space. The resulting cast bronze and aluminum pieces may be monumental or intimate in scale. Most have a smooth, simple shell-like exterior that conceals a more complex, often chaotic interior. Certain works reference landscapes such as an installation composed of conical shapes and colors which recall the eroded profiles of Brice Canyon. The artist will present an environmental light installation developed for the Green Hill Center in which the visitors movement will allow him or her to participate on the relationship between interior and exterior space.

Jon Ray Smith's work has been exhibited at the National Society of Arts and Letters, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and most recently at the Weatherspoon Museum at the UNCG Department of Art Faculty Biennial. He has received numerous awards including the Chancellor's Award /Weatherspoon Collection Purchase Award in 1994.