

Long Island University
Brooklyn Campus

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Seawanhaka

**Seawanhaka: The
Native American
word for Long
Island originally
meant 'wampum.'**



Giorgios Q. Retsinas/Seawanhaka

SALENA GALLERY: Albert Kresh's "Yellow Still Life" is one of dozens of beautiful works of art now on display at the Brooklyn Campus gallery. A Seawanhaka review, more photos, page 22.

VERY RARELY DO YOU expect to be overcome by such a feeling of warmth and friendliness as the aura that exudes from the "Zeuxis at LIU" art exhibit. But as you walk through the Salena Gallery, where the exhibit is on display through Dec. 13, it feels like you've been transported to a rustic country home.

The paintings, on first glance, may seem like simple still-lives. After all, the subjects aren't anything at all out of the ordinary. They consist of anything from a simple egg carton to a batch of freshly caught fish on a hook.

As you analyze the works more carefully, however, they cease to exist as simple inanimate objects and take on lives all their own, even going so far as to make you feel as if you've actually been at the place depicted before.

The most extraordinary aspect of the exhibit is that the still-lives themselves draw you into worlds depicted on mere two dimensional canvases as if the are real.

This aspect is most prevalent when you look at paintings such as Deborah Kirklin's "Kitchen Interior" and William Barnes' "Tabletop Frying Pan." When you visit these two paintings, you feel as though the setting is familiar and comforting, even if you've never had the

pleasure of being in such a setting before. You tend to remember the big weekend breakfast at home which left an armada of dirty dishes in it's wake, but very rarely did anyone stay past the last crumb of toast or drop of coffee.

This is a rare quality that the featured artists have mastered, the ability to not only make a valid depiction of the subjects, but to also inject feeling and warmth into a cold and lifeless form.

Zeuxis, the name of an ancient Greek artist, is the adopted organizational name of 19 still-life artists from across the nation. It was founded in 1994.

Along with the works of the Zeuxis members themselves, other exhibitors featured in the exhibit include Anthony Martino, an adjunct professor in LIU's Art Department.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Check it out.