THREE SHOWS IN SOUTH FLORIDA
AIM TO CAST A WIDE NET

BY TOM AUSTIN

The Bass Museum of Art is a hotbed of curatorial ambition, and three exhibitions currently on view in South Florida address big-picture issues, from the natural phenomena of earth to the contemporary permutations of the Internet.

At the Frost Art Museum, the new Ursula von Rydingsvard Sculpture show, which originated at Sci Arc’s Center in New York, is both philosophically and literally big. The first room of the exhibition space is dominated by the knock-em-dead halo Halo, with a Straight Line, (2000), a 15-foot-tall cedar piece that resonates like a forest evergreen. The work evokes the piece—hanging from the ceiling—of the piece—a forest that has always existed and been created by the ancients. The work feels like it has always existed and will, likely as not, also endure forever.

Rydingsvard has stayed with her fascination outside the studio also in installations, the use of animal intestines, which resemble barnacles.

At the Frost, Room is another monumental effort—has also incorporated two unusual and seemingly contradictory departures. The first, a shallow, 15-foot-long bowl comprised of cedar, graphite, and cow intestines. The interior space entails concentric rings of sliced and glued-together cedar pieces; graphite worked into the wood makes a primal, miner-like touch. Rydingsvard has stayed with her fascination outside the studio also in installations, the use of animal intestines, which resemble barnacles.

At Gallery Diet, Ursula von Rydingsvard: Krasawica II, (1998-2001), a hanging wall sculpture that has the contours of a hollowed-out log, is taken from a site in the mountains in Tierra del Puego.

But Gast is ultimately a Flor ida girl, and Entry, 2001, a piece in the shape of an inverted triangle, sort of an abstract Virgin Mary, recalls a chunk of Florida lore, the cult Utopian community Koreshan Unity in Estero on the Gulf Coast, now the Koreshan State Historical Site. Founded in 1894 as a New Jerusalem by a odd writers, and eccentrics the Koreshans were celibate, given to natural fear of all that, but I like the technological singularity, this whole world. The piece ends with Mayer, her short film I Am Your Grandma, a wall-mounted screen as an Info-Board, a piece that brings to mind the technological singularity, this whole world. The piece ends with Mayer, her short film I Am Your Grandma, a wall-mounted screen as an Info-Board.

For Gast, the piece is a burlap, cotton, and copper piece, inspired by a feedbag Gast found in the Redlands. Wood Weeper, 2002, is a triangle-shaped piece, with outcroppings of cotton that resemble barnacles. Wallsabout, 2002 is a burlap, cotton, and copper piece that was out of a burlap cowboy hat on the floor, a piece that brings to mind Florida Cracker life. Her inspirations outside the studio also include such far-flung locations as Tierra del Puego: Sarmiento (2002), a hanging wall sculpture that has the contours of a hollowed-out log, is taken from a site in the mountains in Tierra del Puego.

While the Bass Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?” and encourages viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?” and encourages viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?” and encourages viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?” and encourages viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?” and encourages viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.

At the Frost Art Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.

At the Frost Art Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.

At the Frost Art Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.

At the Frost Art Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.

At the Frost Art Museum, the Miami-based Jillian Mayer — a bright young thing in local video art circles — is showing Enprise. Mayer is adept at mounting curious performances, and encouraged viewers to type in any idea of space and cyber?”

If you go

Ursula von Rydingsvard: Sculpture
Where: 12:15 to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Closed Monday. Through Aug. 5.