

Saluting dolls, tattooed sumo wrestlers and Las Vegas lights

Jackie Jadrnak / Journal North
Reporter



Sola Fiedler's tapestry of Las Vegas, Nev., is on display at ART Santa Fe. (Jackie Jadrnak/Journal)

While international folk artists are gathering on Museum Hill through this weekend, galleries from around the world are showing contemporary art at the Santa Fe Convention Center. Visitors can have an interesting time shuttling between the two, since the feel is quite different at each.

At ART Santa Fe, which opened to the public Friday, you not only can get shelter from the elements, whether it be heat, rain or wind, but you can stroll through higher-end fine art with more sophisticated cachet.



A large sumo figure from Toki-no-Wasuremono gallery in Tokyo. (Jackie Jadrnak/Journal)

There is some feel of folk art to some pieces, though.

Sola Fiedler's piece is my favorite: A carefully accurate rendering of Las Vegas, Nev., as night is falling in tapestry. Golden threads twinkle as lights at nightfall, while buildings glow in the remaining light. This self-taught artist from Vancouver, B.C., actually unravels sweaters to both recycle their materials and to create her masterpieces.

There's a major presence of a variety of artworks



"Los Pioneros" by Aurora Molina. (Jackie Jadrnak/Journal)

from South Africa, along with Cuba, or influenced by Cuba, such as Aurora Molina's Los Pioneros from Conde Contemporary of Miami. She shows young Cuban schoolchildren in uniform, saluting the Revolution, while their faces are wrinkled and worn to represent the age they would be today.

One of the more amazing figures is a large carved and tattooed sumo wrestler by Takeshi Haguri, from Toki-no-Wasuremono gallery in Tokyo.

And check out the amazing Robert Turner photographs, Some of them positively glow — and a couple have so much depth they give a feel of being 3-D.



Artists and collectors mingle at ART Santa Fe at the convention center on Friday. (Jackie Jadrnak/Journal)