

## New Tree Museum exhibit opens

BY MATTHEW SITLER

Several thought-provoking works by multimedia artists Dyan Marie and Ed Pien are the focus of a new exhibit opening this weekend at the Tree Museum, located at 1634 Doe Lake Rd., in Gravenhurst.

The Tree Museum is a sprawling, outdoor art gallery which showcases unique and challenging art installations amid the grandeur of nature.

The new exhibition of site-specific installations is called "In Between," and runs from Sept. 6 to Oct. 30.

Visitors to In Between will discover how Marie and Pien have used the Muskoka landscape to explore spaces that lie between the physical, perceptual and imagined.

Tree Museum curator Anne O'Callaghan said their works are located throughout the property.

"(The exhibit) expresses that notion that we are in-between two spaces — the urban and the rural, which is getting shorter and shorter," said O'Callaghan. "With Dyan's work, there are two parts to her exhibition; one is at the Tree Museum and the other part is in downtown Toronto, between Lansdowne and Bloor Street."

At the Tree Museum, Marie's work includes large signage that combines Muskoka imagery with ones from the city.

In Toronto, the same two image types are also used, but in a different way.

"She's made banners that are located all along Bloor Street," explained O'Callaghan. "She spent some time up at the Tree Museum taking photographs of the rocks, clouds, the lake and ferns — all those things which are so much part of the Muskoka landscape. She also went along Bloor Street and took photographs of newly arrived Canadians who have stores located along the street. She brought



**IN BETWEEN.** Multimedia artist Dyan Marie has erected large signage as part of her contribution to the new Tree Museum exhibit called In Between, which opens Sept. 6 and runs to Oct. 30. Both she and artist Ed Pien have used the Muskoka landscape to explore spaces that lie between the physical, perceptual and imagined. (Photo by Matthew Sitler)

Muskoka into their lives, showing them together, because not many people get a chance to be out of the city. It's sort of transforming the streets of Toronto and transforming the Tree Museum site."

Artist Ed Pien has taken a different approach in addressing the In Between motif. Part of his new work incorporates reflective surfaces.

"When people are up north and see the lakes, people are often looking at the landscape reflection in the water, rather than looking at the water," noted O'Callaghan. "Ed has put about 12 stainless steel disks up in the trees and they are very active because of the wind. What you are seeing when you look at them is the reflection of the landscape surrounding you. The sunlight catches them and you see the light's reflection on the ground. It's magical."

Both Marie and Pien have several installations included in the exhibit beyond those described.

For those wanting to attend the exhibit's opening this weekend, it should be noted that a reception will be held Sunday, Sept. 6 beginning at noon.

Both artists will be in attendance and O'Callaghan said September is a wonderful time to visit the property.

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