

dream visions that align Ber- achievement was to have dis- go on. (At 78 E. Washington St.,  
dich with Symbolism and covered for herself a method of through April 2.)

## Struve exhibit presents religion as art

**R**eligion is so hot it sizzles. Not freedom of religion—that, at least in this country, is basically a non-issue. However, mention school prayer and cults and you've opened a Pandora's box.

Amid this, Struve Gallery has

### Gallery scene

Lori Gray

mounted "Spiritual Inquiries—Contemporary Paintings and Sculpture of Jewish and

Christian Subjects."

The exhibition "Spiritual Inquiries" does not aim to celebrate religion (though several artists do so). Instead, it is a presentation of religion as art.

Most works do not preach a particular gospel; they merely expose it. Two of the more assertively religious works, appropriate for a church or synagogue, are Richard Long's "Arma Christi" series, three large crucifixes richly laden with gold crosses and other symbols of the Christian religion, and Cheselyn Amato's "Tikkun Glossaries," which combine Hebrew text with properties of quilting.

Through March 4. 309 W. Superior St. 312-787-0563.

**A**rguably, nobody did more for Pop Art and the question of high vs. low art than Andy Warhol. Now, the School of the Art Institute's Betty Rymer Gallery is presenting "Cheap Art," a juried exhibition of works by undergraduate and graduate students. This all-media show features works created by "inferior art" media like plastic videocassettes.

Alternately it's serious and kitschy.

What's interesting about "Cheap Art" is not so much that the artists included have created "art" out of "low" materials, but how much popular culture courses through their works. Certainly there are works, such as the sculpture by Yarima Ariza that is rich in texture and visual appeal in spite of the use of such "low" materials as toilet paper, and Jennifer Lapham's untitled mobile made of newspaper pulp, shish kebab skewers and bicycle inner tubes, which is as much about light as it is about balance.

Through March 29. Columbus Drive and Jackson Boulevard. 312-443-3703.

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LORI GRAY, THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, FEBRUARY 24, 1996