

Gallery odyssey reveals rare riches

by Susan Snodgrass

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New art, old art (as far back as the Indians), realistic art, expressionistic art, sculpture, massive art, miniatures—in short Miami's small galleries have a rare richness of art brought here for the New World Festival of the Arts.

Three full, precisely planned days could be occupied with the gallery shows around town that run for the most part through June 26. If any permanent institution attests to the health of Miami as an arts center, the little gallery is it.

....West into Coral Gables leads the indefatigable gallery tourer to the Virginia Miller Artspace at 169 Madeira Avenue. This gallery is one of those few places that is perfectly suited by design, lighting and spacing, to the works being shown. Here are the spacious, glowing, delicate paintings of Trevor Bell, the Britisher transplanted to Tallahassee. The effects of the vibrant, Florida light, skies, space shots and sea colors are very apparent in these new paintings.

A few blocks away at 265 Aragon Ave. is Meeting Point Art Center where Panamanian Rogelio Pretto has a show. Pretto is known for his miniatures in tempera. In this show Pretto enlarges the picture quite rightly since he is dealing with themes as broad as the puzzle of human existence as it moves into the universe. Pretto uses puppies as a symbol of man's infancy in the age of discovery and exploration. Often the puppy is enclosed in a room or stranded on a puzzling rooftop faced with the option of falling into space...