Jerry Gorum, artist and sculptor, part of a two-man show at the Zigler Museum throughout May.

The rare beauty and excitement of Louisiana has been captured in bronze by artist Don McCaughey and Jerry Gorum. Their sculptures, pencil drawings, and paintings will be on exhibit throughout May at the Zigler Museum.

A reception in their honor is scheduled for Sunday, May 1 from 2 to 4 p.m. and the public, as always, is cordially invited to attend.

Don McCaughey, artist and sculptor, loves the river and swamp life.

Born and raised in Vinton, Louisiana he has hunted, fished, and trapped along the swamps and marshes of the Sabine River. He is an avid canoeist and his art work has become an extension of his Life's interests.

McCaughey uses the lost wax bronze casting method for creating his sculptures. The artist first creates a model of the work in wax. After the detailing is completed a rubber mold is made from the wax model. McCaughey makes his own molds but has the bronze casting done in Houston.

He is a self-taught artist, influenced by the natural world around him. McCaughey says, "I get a lot of my ideas while roaming the woods". His art work reflects a sensitivity and authenticity he believes possible only through personal experience. Painting wildlife scenes on driftwood with acrylics is another art form of his. He spends much of his time on the river looking for driftwood to paint.

Jerry Gorum, artist and sculpture, strives for realism in his art. His life has been full of many different work experiences and people from cowboys to politicians.

He uses art to capture his memories in character studies in pencil, scratchboard and acrylics. He was raised in central Louisiana. The swamp scenes and hill country homesteads in his paintings and pencil drawings reflect his affection for the area.

Gorum feels that the absence of formal art training adds depth and feeling to his work that only experience can teach. Creating bronze sculptures is the challenge of creating art that retains balance and appeal when viewed from any angle. Gorum is a diverse artist. "Some subjects are captured best in pencil while others are done better with a brush or even in bronze. I work better with form than with color," says the artist about his choice of medium.

Both Don McCaughey and Jerry Gorum are masters of their art. With individual style they create art that is alive with understanding and sensitivity of the world and people around them.

The Museum hours are weekdays 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4:30 p.m.; weekends 2 to 4:30 p.m. and closed Mondays.

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