

# Boro Diversity Shows In New Library Exhibit

By JO-ANNE RASKIN *JAR*

"Trans" is a unique and eclectic cultural exhibition currently being presented at the Queens Central Library Gallery in Jamaica.

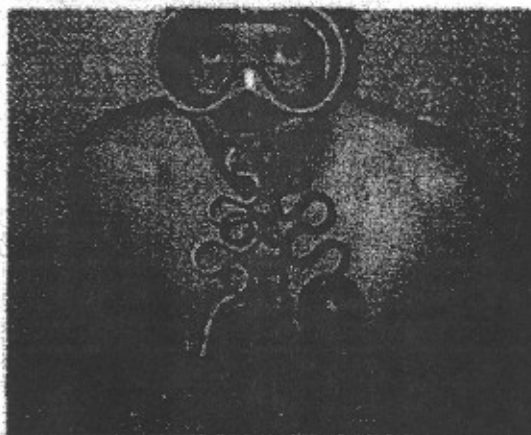
Eight artists from eight foreign countries have their works on display, including paintings, drawings, photographs, and multimedia projects. Belgium-born artist Tom Bogaert's piece, "Masques Qualite' Export-Serie 1," is an acrylic paint on wood using two "readymade objects" an African mask and a popular beer that is sold locally in the Congo.

Bogaert, a noted attorney, resided in the Congo for two years dealing with refugee field research and human right issues. By combining these two objects Bogaert poses the question of "what makes something culturally authentic and why people are drawn to the exotic and alluring." While his work is said to be politically charged, he manages to incorporate irony and humor in his art.

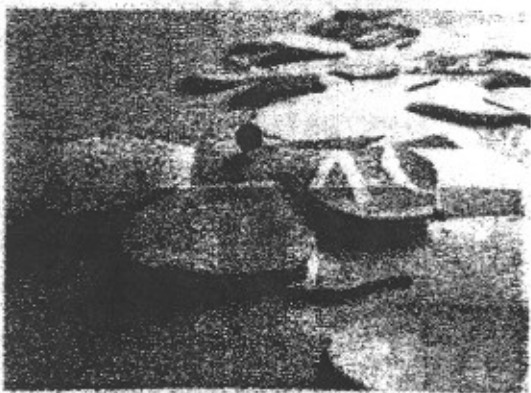
Another artist, China-born YaQin Betty Chou, offers multi-media work "Blossom Series 2004," consisting of fragile white flowers on ink fabric and pushpins utilizes the themes of cultural, personal and aesthetic identity.

Other artists in the exhibit include Nicole Awai, Shelly Bahl, Nicolas Dumit Estevez, Ingo Gunther, Jenny Polack and Juana Valdes. "Trans" is not only educational, but the exhibit is as culturally diverse as Queens itself.

The show runs through June 10. For further information contact Curator Juliana Driever at (718) 990-8655; or visit the Web



Part of a piece by Nicolás Dumit Estevez.



Part of YaQin Betty Chou's "Blossom Series."

site, [www.queenslibrary.org/gallery](http://www.queenslibrary.org/gallery). The library is located at 89-11 Merrick Blvd. Gallery Hours: Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.