

Bob Rizzo's "The Dreamer" at the Newport Art Museum.

**Newport Art Museum: 3-D  
Rhode Island**  
76 Bellevue Avenue  
Newport, RI  
Through January 2, 2005


The exhibition "3-D Rhode Island" at the Newport Art Museum provides a unique opportunity to view the works of fifty accomplished contemporary Rhode Island sculptors working in a wide range of styles and media. This exciting sampler of recent sculptural objects has been beautifully installed in the neo-classical Morris Gallery.

There are many strong narrative works in the exhibition, like Michael Telko's "Suburbia" which is mounted on one of the dark green gallery walls, spotlighted by pinpoint quartz lights. The playful contrast in scale between his suspended miniature houses with full-size faucets, hoses and sprinklers that curl onto the gallery floor puts the irony of glorious suburban living right in your face.

Jennifer Raimondi has a bizarre piece in the show in which a bathroom pedestal sink cradles a strange anthropomorphic object. It resembles an enormous pantyhose-covered phallus with pointy toes.

Like a contemporary shaman, Bob Rizzo takes found objects and gives them new life in his complex assemblage figure called, "The Dreamer." Along with the legs from old turned-wood columns and textile spindle arms, the flotsam and jetsam of the inner organs of the figure are visible through a glass-covered abdominal cavity. "The Dreamer" comes to life and almost walks off the pedestal

onto the floor.

For art viewers who love sculpture, there is much to see in this exhibition. 

*Michael Cochran*