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## COMMUNITY

Andrews Journal

### Art exhibit tours Andrews

BY STACY GREEN

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The Fluidity of Gender art exhibit has made a stop in downtown Andrews on its prestigious list of stops, including universities and large museums. The exhibit by feminist artist Linda Stein are figures of strength, power and fantasy.

The exhibit is in its seventh year of traveling the nation and will visit 24 museums and universities, including the Flomenhaft Gallery in Manhattan, N.Y., and Pennsylvania State University. The exhibit is Stein's exploration of the body with leather-wrapped torsos that challenge assumptions that underlie sexism. The figures also portray images of DC Comics Wonder Woman and Marvel's Amazonian superhero.

The theme of the works are masculine and feminine expectations and how they are broken, with leather- and metal-clad forms showing feminine and masculine anatomical traits.

Andrews Art Museum curator Tom Vogler said Stein contacted him to place her work in Andrews. He added that the busts and figures will be on display in the museum until Monday, June 30, when they will move to Pennsylvania State.

The busts are made from different elements – including leather, wood and metal – and some of the forms are covered with images of Wonder Woman from comic books, saying lines like, "We have to escape from those gender constrictions."

Tim Comstock of Andrews, who viewed the exhibit, said it reminded him of both past and future, with the models looking like futuristic warriors.



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Masculine and feminine expectations are themes shown in the Fluidity of Gender exhibit, they are broken with leather and metal clad forms with feminine and masculine anatomical traits.

"This exhibit is so cool," he said. "It's like these busts could be from 1890 or 2050."

Vogler said the life-size busts are only part of the exhibit. A 15-foot sculpture is on display at the Portland Museum in Portland, Ore.

Elizabeth LeDuke of Andrews said the figures reminded her of the character

Braveheart, steampunk and the video game Kingdom Hearts.

"What separates a true artist is the themes. If they pick a theme and continue, then they have something," she said about the exhibit.

For a scheduled time to see the exhibit, contact Vogler at 557-0941 or email tmvogler@hotmail.com.