

WOWED BY WIRED

Story By Elphina Magnona

The National Gallery of the Cayman Islands has opened its doors to art lovers wanting to experience cyber art in all its guises.

Its "Wired" exhibition, runs until the end of the month, providing an interesting and thought-provoking selection of high-quality computer-generated art, much of which is accessible to the visitor familiar with the special effects imagery in modern cinema and advertising.

The purpose of "Wired" is to educate people as to the capabilities of the computer. Far from being a purely functional device to churn out reports and spreadsheets, computers are seen to create art, taking the discipline into new and unexpected directions.

According to the Gallery's consultant director, Ms Leslie Bigelman, visitors to the exhibition are going to get several things from "Wired".

"Some will look at the first room and

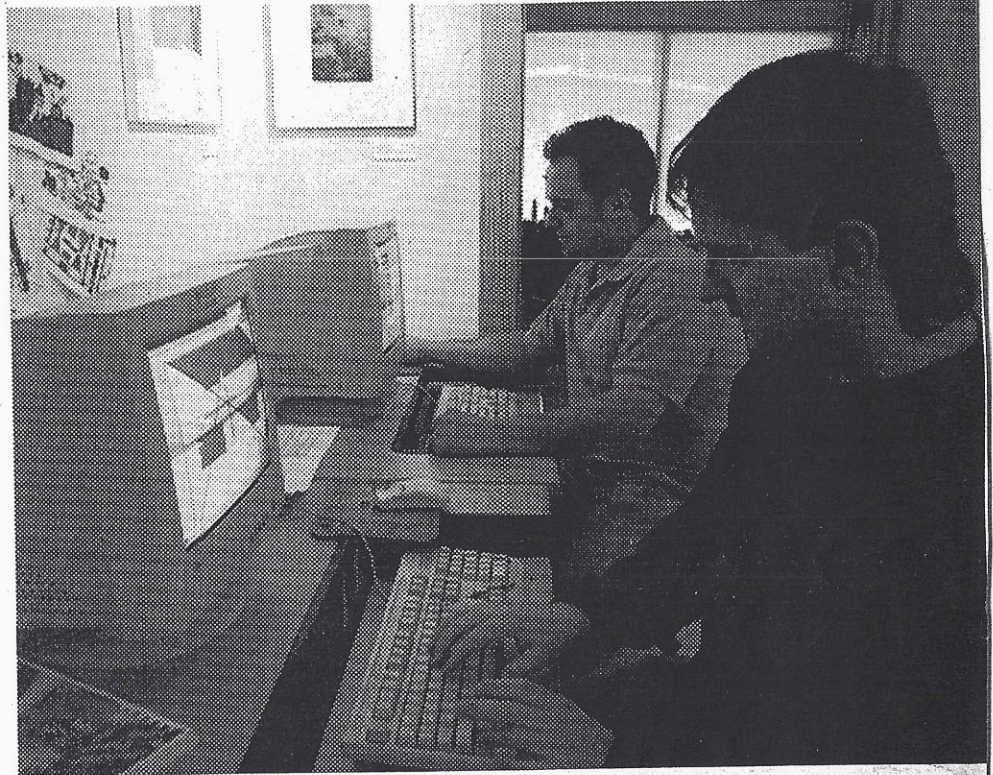
And others, having made it to Allen Toney's work in the last room, will appreciate that you can use this tool to help you generate some really complex and exquisite art."

The positioning of the artwork in the various display spaces has been designed to take the visitor through from the work of untrained computer artists like Michael Mayer, on to the variety found in the travelling computer show, through to the highest level of computer art.

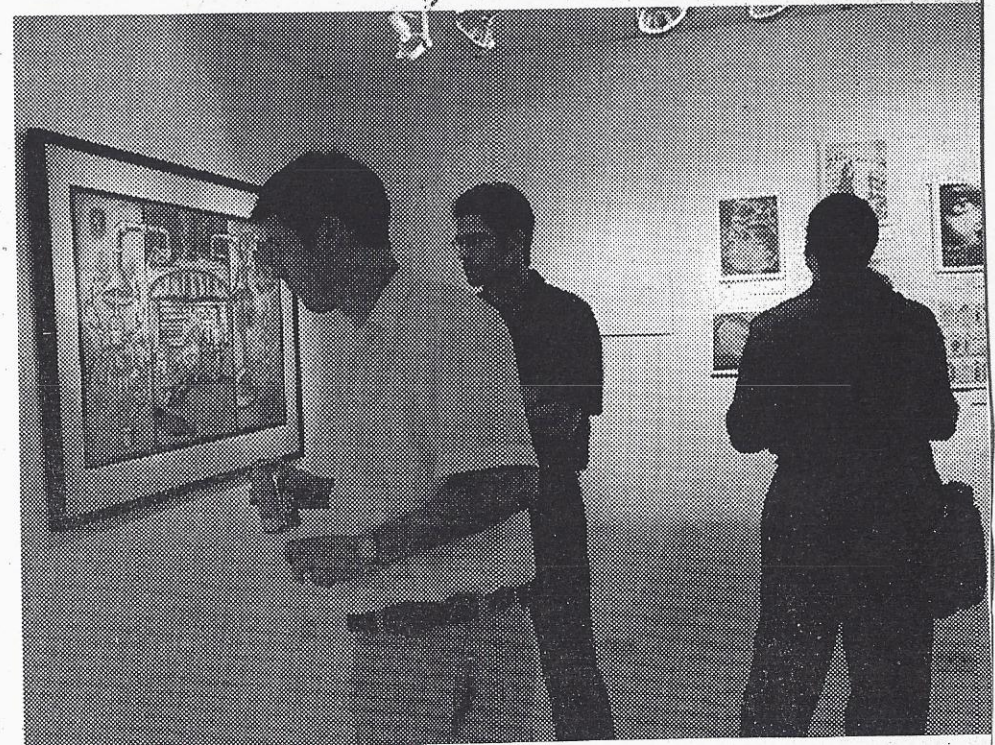
Having whetted a few appetites, the Gallery has installed three computer monitors for those who having seen the art now want to try their hand at generating their own cyber art pieces. The other terminal, for accessing the various cyber art websites, allows the visitor to take an armchair view of works by other cyber artists.

Work from the National Gallery exhibition is featured on the front cover of the Weekender

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ABOVE RIGHT: The Gallery's education coordinator, Paul Jordison (left) and "Wired" contributor Allen Toney, create artwork with the help of computers in the exhibition's hands-on interactive bay. Photos: Elphina Magnona



LOWER RIGHT: Three from a group of 60 members of the Cayman Society of Architects, Surveyors and Engineers (CASE) view the "Wired" exhibition at the National Gallery