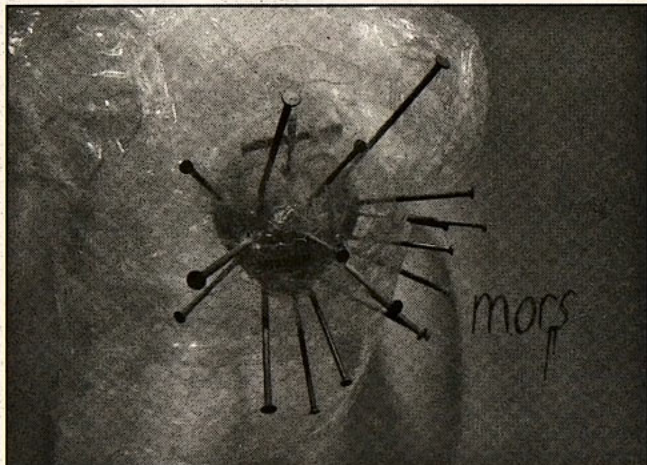


## Cor: A Senior Exhibition from the Heart

By Andy Wyss

Thursday, March 5th marked the first of six senior exhibitions in the new Concordia Art Center gallery. The inaugural event belonged to Emmanuel "Manny" Kuphal and his show entitled *Cor*.

Manny, a senior design major from Gaylord, Minnesota, showcased his uniquely themed show to a crowded gallery room, proudly displaying his latest artistic work. The show features a variety artwork, film, and even pieces that required artistic input from students and faculty.



The title of the show, *Cor*, is the Latin word for "heart." However, the title carries a much deeper meaning for Manny. "For me, it describes what is at my center, or my 'core.' It's somewhat of a play on that word," Manny stated. The main theme of the show stemmed from the book *Abolition of Man* by C.S. Lewis. In the book, Lewis talks about the idea of 'men without chests.'

"He makes the point that, through our emphasis on reason and intellect, we have neglected instilling morals and a true sense of right and wrong," explained Manny. "If we put reason of our brain ahead of the conscience and absolute truth we feel in our hearts, we become 'men without chests'."

The entire exhibition is essentially mixed media. In preparing for the show, Manny created works of art using light bulbs, mirror shards, nails, barbed wire, and other random objects. "Looking back on it, I'm surprised I didn't lose more blood in putting it together," he said, "though, that would be quite poetic, don't you think?"

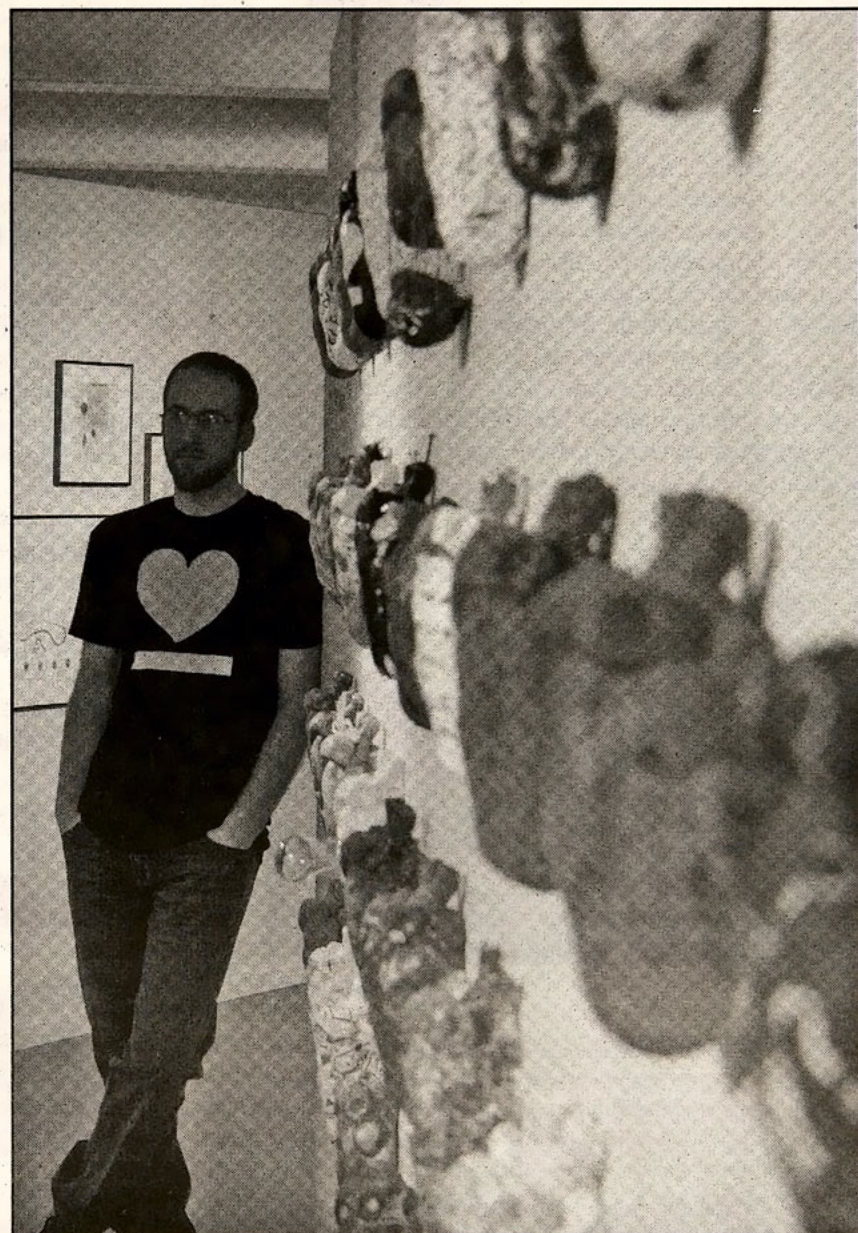
The major attraction of the show was undoubtedly the 40 plaster hearts that were cast and handed out to students and faculty to artistically decorate. "I invited people to put whatever was on their hearts, onto my hearts," Manny explained. "I didn't care what happened to the heart, as long as it was meaningful to them, and I got to include it in my show."

But once again, there is a deeper message behind this work. Manny is going to attempt to auction off these hearts and donate the proceeds to an online organization called Heart Support, a web-based community used to help people with problems like self-harm, eating disorders, and addictions. "I thought it was a great way to try and make something more than an art show...something that could actually serve to help people who were struggling with things that often are kept secret," stated Manny.



With such intellectually and spiritually inspired artwork, it is no surprise to see where Manny gets his inspiration. "It's always been God and His creation and work," explained Manny. "I can't really explain the ideas I get...it's always best when a piece starts happening serendipitously, because it's then that I can more clearly see that it's not only me working on it." Clearly, the small, Christian campus of Concordia has only fueled Manny's passion for this type of artwork.

"I feel that God has blessed me with a brain that is constantly seeking symbolism in everyday life," concluded Manny. "I've really been struck with how God is revealing himself everywhere, if we just open our eyes to it." For more information on Manny's exhibition, please visit the senior gallery in the Concordia Arts Center, and take time to check out [heartsupport.com](http://heartsupport.com).



Manny with the wall of hearts

Photos by Andy Wyss

### Upcoming Senior Exhibitions

Sasha Estby • March 26 – April 10  
Reception Thursday March 26, 5-7pm

Jessica Tewes • April 16 – 26  
Reception Thursday April 16, 5-7pm

Linnea Brashears (Buetow Gallery) • April 16 – April 29  
Reception Thursday April 16, 6-8pm

Colby Reinking and Maria Steinhagen  
(Buetow Gallery) • April 30 – May 15  
Reception Thursday April 30, 5-7pm

Julie Marti and Emily Owen • April 30 – May 15  
Reception Thursday April 30, 5-7pm