



umbrella

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BUMBERSHOOTS GALORE IN SEATTLE

Over the Labor Day weekend, Seattle held its 11th annual Bumershoot Festival, a celebration of rain featuring visual arts, music, dance, entertainment and good food. Unfortunately it was sunny and warm during all the four days of the rain festival, but it did not dampen anyone's spirits. As usual people turned out in the thousands. Bumershoot has become a popular event in Seattle, and the poster that announces it receives quite a bit of attention. In fact, it has become an event in itself. This year's competition had over fifty of the area's artists designing around the theme "Go Bumershooting."

Beanne Hull designed the winning entry, and it was by far the best conceptual solution. A kayaker paddling through a running rapids of umbrellas became the symbol for this year's festival. The black and white on gray airbrushed, Xerox collage, bordered by a sprinkle of tiny rainbow arcs was transformed into the 1981 poster. Beanne became a bit of a celebrity as she was featured on the evening news and in the newspapers. Her story is a fascinating one, since she came to Seattle from Cape Town South Africa to be with her husband-to-be (whom she met in Greece). She graduated from the University of Capetown in graphic design and presently designs for the City of Seattle. She maintains a studio at home where she does illustration and printmaking. She's torn between being a serious printmaker and doing what a client wants, finding poster design to be a good blend of the two.

Her work will be seen more frequently around Seattle in the coming years and no doubt there will be other competitions to win, but there won't be anything that compares to holding a place in the Bumershoot Hall of Fame!

—Janet Rekosh

Janet Rekosh is an artist herself, using the theme of umbrellas in her own work. She recently had a show at the University of Washington.



