

**on the
shelf:**

**JOY DIVISION BASSIST
DELIVERS IN BOOK**

• **"Unknown Pleasures:
Inside Joy Division"** (It
Books), by Peter Hook

Joy Division played only
three years' worth of gigs
and released two studio
albums.

Still, in that limited
window of time, the four 20-
somethings
from Britain's
industrial
north helped
spur the
'80s-era
alternative
rock
movement.

The
band was
known for its dark,
minimalist sound and the
introspective, poetic lyrics
of its enigmatic frontman,
Ian Curtis, who committed
suicide in May 1980, just
as Joy Division was set to
embark on its first U.S. tour
and two months ahead of
the release of its second
and final album, "Closer."

Even as the trio found
success without Curtis,
though, his memory never
was far from them.

"Unknown Pleasures:
Inside Joy Division"
provides a detailed history
of the band.

But what sets Hook's
memoir apart is its painful
honesty and well-positioned
focus on Curtis, who is,
without a doubt, the star of
the show.

"We were individuals,
me, Steve and Bernard,"
Hook writes. "The glue that
held us together, the driving
force of the band, was Ian."

"This book is as much
about him as it is me,"
Hook writes of Curtis, who
struggled through medical,
financial and romantic
upheaval throughout Joy
Division's lifespan.

The passages that detail
the singer's battle with
epilepsy are particularly
stirring.

For Joy Division purists,
the pages ooze with tales of
sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

"Unknown Pleasures" is
truly a pleasurable read.

The book works on a
completely different level,
though. At its core, the book
is more character study
than band bio.

— Associated Press



**"Enormous Handful," 2006-2007, by Sarah
Amos, collagraph and mixed media, 90 by
96 inches**

Women's issues are the focus for 16 female artists in exhibition

By **GARY DEMUTH**
Salina Journal

Through paintings, sculptures, photogra-
phy, textiles and printmaking, the changing
roles of women in contemporary society is
explored by 16 female artists in a new exhibi-
tion opening at the Salina Art Center.

"A Complex Weave: Women and Identity
in Contemporary Art" features the work of
female artists from around the world as they
explore gender and identity issues, the female
body, geographical locations, childhood and
family issues and women's accessories.

The artists range from feminists who
came of age in the 1970s to young women just
beginning their careers, said Salina Art Center
Director Bill North.

"All of these artists are
addressing gender and its
relationship to identity
through their work, and how
complex both are," he said.

He hopes the exhibition
will promote discussion and
conversation.

"Hopefully, it will create
a point of departure for conversation about
subjects that are meaningful, important and
relevant to us," he said.

"A Complex Weave" opens Feb. 22 and runs
through April 21 at the Salina Art Center, 242
S. Santa Fe.

Running in conjunction with "A Complex
Weave" will be a complementary exhibition,
"Working on the Bias," in the Watson Gallery
at the Stiefel Theatre for the Performing Arts,
151 S. Santa Fe. This exhibition features
local and area female artists who also explore
themes of gender and identity while incor-
porating stitched, embroidered or woven ele-
ments into their artwork.

A reception for both shows will be from 5 to
7 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Salina Art Center and
Stiefel Theatre. Following the reception,
rhythm and blues and gospel singer Mavis
Staples will perform at the Stiefel Theatre.

Awareness of issues

"Working on the Bias" was organized by
Watson Gallery Director Carolyn Wedel and
Rachel Epp Buller of the Feminist Art Proj-
ect, an international collaborative initiative
celebrating the effect of women in the visual
arts. Buller is the Newton-based regional
director of the project.

"It's an exciting project for us to do in con-
junction with the Salina Art Center, to create
awareness for women's issues using differ-



"Curls" 2005, by Sonya Clark, black plastic hair combs, 96 by 36 inches

SALINA ART CENTER

- **EXHIBITION:** "A Complex Weave:
Women and Identity in Contemporary
Art"
- **WHEN:** Feb. 22-April 21
- **HOURS:** Noon-5 p.m., Wednesday-
Saturday; 1-5 p.m., Sunday,
- **WHERE:** Salina Art Center, 242 S.
Santa Fe
- **INFORMATION:** 827-1431 or
salinaartcenter.org

WATSON GALLERY

- **EXHIBITION:** "Working on the Bias,"
featuring local and area female artists
- **WHEN:** Noon-1:30 weekdays; by
appointment, or starting at 4 p.m. on
show dates, Feb. 22-April 21; call 827-
1998.
- **WHERE:** Watson Gallery, Stiefel
Theatre for the Performing Arts, 151 S.
Santa Fe.
- **RECEPTION:** For both shows, 5 to
7 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Salina Art Center
and Watson Gallery, followed by a
performance at 8 p.m. by singer Mavis
Staples at the Stiefel Theatre.

ent mediums," Wedel said.

Participating in "Working on the Bias"
will be Priti Cox, Karla Prickett, Jan Wilson
and Wedel, all of Salina; Gerry Craig, Man-
hattan; Lora Jost, Lawrence; Ke-Sook Lee,
Kansas City; Ruth Moritz, Lincoln; Erika
Nelson, Lucas; Stacey Roller, Lincoln, Neb.;
Debbie Wagner, Bennington; and Mary Wer-
ner, Wichita.

From varied backgrounds

The 16 female artists contributing to "A
Complex Weave" run the gamut of age, race,
religion and cultural influences, North said.
"A number of them are immigrants to this
country and have complex biographies," he
said. "One artist is a Jewish woman raised
in Mumbai (India), attended Catholic school
and now lives in New Jersey. Her work deals
with the complexity of these cultures."

The exhibition is organized into five
thematic divisions, North said: Image and
Text, where words from texts such as the
Torah are superimposed over visual images
focused on women; Complex Geographies,
where different cultures and geographi-



**"Story of Veranda — Nusumigiki," 2002, by
Fujiko Isomura, mixed media on watercolor
paper, 22 by 16 1/2 inches**



**"Finding Home, #57 — Passport Photo,"
2002, by Siona Benjamin, gouache on paper,
13 by 10 inches**

cal locations and its effect on women are
explored; the Female Body; Childhood and
Family; and Accessories, which includes
items such as combs, doilies and

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