It's about time at Eldon House

"Time has Three Dimensions", currently at **Eldon House**, is a diverse and interactive group exhibit organized by guest curator Kirtley Jarvis.

The show features work by eight artists from the London area, two of whom are fresh out of art school. Jarvis says her only criterion in choosing participants was that they be "rabid artists."

Jarvis' idea for the Eldon House exhibit grew out of an interest in outdoor art and a desire to create a show merging the contemporary and historical in art. Eldon house, with its wealth of treasures from the past, proved to be the perfect setting. "Without Eldon House, this show would not exist," says Jarvis.

In introducing the show in the walking tour brochure, Jarvis explains that "creeping around an old house and using that as a springboard to create art isn't everyone's idea of a good time." However she does acknowledge the propensity toward this behaviour in her relatives (by blood or marriage); hence a number of Jarvises and Gooddens grace the list of artists.

Several of the pieces are installed around the grounds of the house while others appear inside the home itself. The outdoor work is interactive and playful, in contrast to the museum—like setting of Eldon House. Jarvis' own sundial invites visitors to stand on a marble tile corresponding to the current month and allow their shadow to point out the hour.

"Bridge to the Past" by Bentley Jarvis is installed on the south lawn. Constructed of galvanized and stainless steel, this sound sculpture is comprised of several pairs of cylindrical tuned chimes. Each pair of chimes sounds the first two notes of a musical composition completed in 1834, the year Eldon House was built. The chimes, which measure several feet in length, can be rung with the two wooden mallets attached to the sculpture.

In addition to these pieces, the show contains painting on vintage linoleum by Jack Niven, stained glass by Ted Goodden, and more metal and mixed media sculpture by Ron Milton, David Hind, Emily Goodden, and Aston Coles.

Jarvis hopes that this show will be a stepping stone to future displays of public outdoor art. "More public art makes the city interesting," she says. It also attracts visitors. Jarvis feels that getting art into public spaces as important as getting people into galleries.

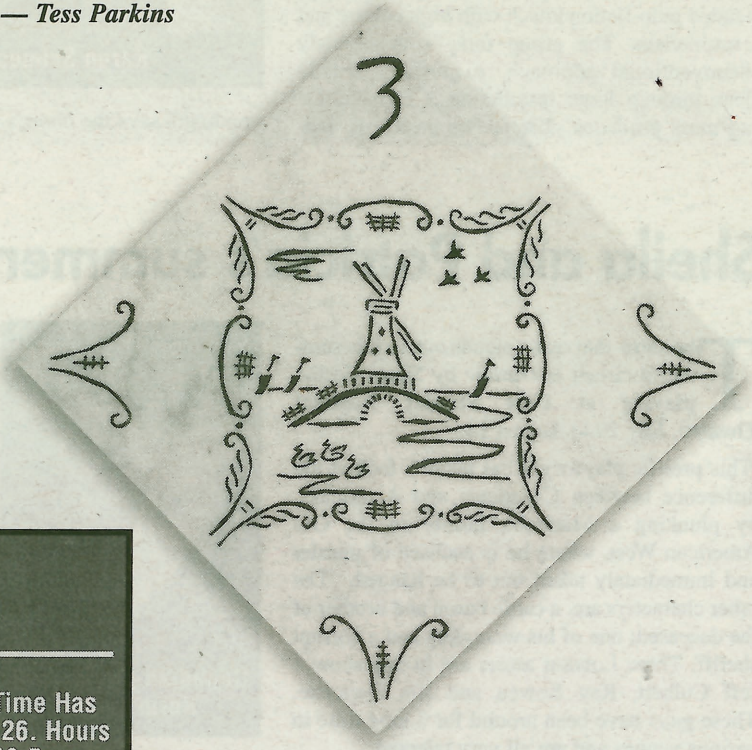
She also hopes to get the word out that the outdoor sculpture at Eldon House is meant to be interactive: play the chimes, swing the pendulum on Ron Milton's sculpture, pull the cords on Emily Goodden's bizarre hunting trophies. "Please touch!" says Jarvis, with a laugh.

If you haven't seen Eldon House lately, isn't it about time?

— Tess Parkins

Where+Who

Eldon House (481 Ridout St. N). "Time Has Three Dimensions", to September 26. Hours to June 1, Wednesday to Sunday, 12-5pm, after June 1, Tuesday to Sunday, 12-5pm, by donation Wednesday & Sunday, Other days: $5 adults/$4 seniors/$1 children under 16/ $10 families. Call: 661-0333



One of 12 ceramic tiles in Kirtley Jarvis' "Nine to Five Sundial"