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Huntington Beach Art Center spotlights man and nature

Review: 'The Cylinder, the Sphere, the Cone' is former curator Darlene DeAngelo's swan song.

By [RICHARD CHANG](#) THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

["The Cylinder, the Sphere, the Cone" is] one of the finest art exhibitions in Southern California all year.

"The Cylinder, the Sphere, the Cone" features mostly large-scale works by artists Pat Warner, Gary Simpson and Lana Shuttleworth. The title of the show comes from Paul Cézanne's famous observation that an artist should "treat nature by the cylinder, the sphere, the cone." Cézanne was interested in simplifying naturally occurring objects to their geometric fundamentals – for example, a tree trunk should be perceived as a cylinder, an apple as a sphere, etc. Some point to this quote as one of the key foundations of modern art.

In the Huntington Beach exhibition, each artist represents one of these forms: Warner's tree-focused pieces reflect the cylinder; Simpson's global and soil-based works symbolize the sphere; and Shuttleworth's use of traffic cones as a primary medium quite literally embraces the cone.

CYLINDER

La Habra Heights resident Warner has contributed a number of offerings from her "Floragalora" series. Inspired by Japanese art practices, Warner's art is clean and sparse, yet colorful. She uses archival colored paper on Unryu paper with ink, creating a layered effect that emulates leaves, branches and flowers.

Four large rectangular panels make up the "Floragalora Wall" (2012) – one of the first things you see in the exhibit. Taken together, they are meditative studies of nature, subtlety and occasionally, extravagance.

Warner's "Allée for Huntington Beach" (1995-2012) consists of six "trees" made of pine and wood. The finely sanded trees with twisting horizontal branches embody the "cylinder" theme and serve as columns connecting the first gallery to the next. "Allée" is majestic and mysterious, demonstrating Warner's talents with wood as well as paper.

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