



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

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Eastern Sculptor Featured at Mystic Arts Center

Willimantic, Conn. – Eastern Connecticut State University Visual Arts Professor

Claudia Widdiss' sculptures are currently on display at the Liebig Gallery in the Mystic Arts Center, located on Water Street in Mystic. The exhibition, titled *Between Light and Shadow*, includes five of Widdiss' works: *Free*, *Awakening*, *First Curtain*, *Surrender*, and *First Light*, a work in progress. The exhibit runs through Feb. 23.

"I just love the way Widdiss works with the forms and the lighting," said Mystic Arts Center Executive Director Karen Barthelson. "I was trying to find a way to expand my metal work and a way to create volume, but I've always wanted to put metal on the wall," said Widdiss. "Somehow in that process, it occurred to me why I wanted to do that in a kind of subconscious way."

Widdiss' passion for art and design dates back to her time at the High School of Art and Design in New York City, where she graduated with a major in sculpture. Later, she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Rhode Island College, and a master's in Fine Arts from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Widdiss has studied abroad on a Charloner Prize Foundation Grant and also won scholarships to the National Academy of Fine Art and the Arts Students League. Eastern presented Widdiss with an award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003.

For more information about *Between Light and Shadow*, contact the Mystic Arts Center at (860) 536-7601 or visit www.mysticarts.org

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.