



Mark Langan

GETTING ARTISTIC WITH CORRUGATED

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, as they say. Mark Langan—a 42-year-old artist in Brunswick Hills, Ohio—found beauty in corrugated containerboard.

Years ago, while tearing apart some old corrugated boxes, Langan noticed the wavy, fluted layer of paper (called medium) sandwiched between the smooth sheets of linerboard. “It got me thinking that, if I were to slice, stack, and glue pieces to each other, some very interesting effects could be created,” he recalls.

Last July, Langan began turning that thought into reality, creating artworks by layering sheets of corrugated into aesthetically pleasing patterns. “The corrugated lends itself well to patterns,” he explains. “When viewed from different angles and lighting, the piece changes.”

Langan made his first piece—titled *Max & Lori’s Move*—by artistically recycling the corrugated boxes left by his neighbors when they moved. Overall, he has created 15 corrugated artworks (and counting), though he now uses new corrugated board on a roll

because of its cleanliness, length, and consistency in size.

Langan’s corrugated artworks range in size from 18 by 26 inches to 26 by 38 inches, and all are framed in natural oak finished with tung oil. While he leaves most of his pieces the natural brown color of the corrugated, he has applied acrylic paint to two pieces to achieve a specific artistic purpose. “This gives the pieces an interesting look because paint is blown into the cavities at different angles,” he notes.

While Langan has worked proficiently in virtually all artistic media, he plans to continue focusing on corrugated because he has “a multitude of ideas waiting to be brought to fruition.”

And what’s his motivation—artistic or otherwise—in all of this? “In a nutshell,” he states, “the idea is finding the beauty in this everyday item that often ends up in the trash.”

Currently, several of Langan’s corrugated artworks are on consignment at The Gallery in the Vault in Wooster, Ohio. For more information, contact Langan at 330/273-5290 or werlangan@aol.com, or visit www.langanart.com. You can also contact the gallery directly at 330/262-3599.

