

Denizens of an invisible world populate *A Walk in the Woods*

PORTLAND — *Creatures, Gods, Angels and Elements: A Walk in the Woods*, works in paper, clay and fiber by Squirrly Lillithal Davis, will be on display at Bushland Gallery Oct. 30 through Nov. 18. An opening reception takes place 5 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 3.

In *The Practice of the Wild*, Gary Snyder writes that if you stay in a place long enough, it begins to talk to you, says Davis, who has lived on 118 acres in the rolling hills of Waldo County for 30 years. The land, its creatures, trees and the invisible world behind them have inspired and compelled much of her creative work, she says. "This land talks to me," Davis says.

About her art, Davis writes, "I wish to bring, as a gift, the encounter with earthtouch that I experience in materials and in the natural world. My great teacher in the quest for meaning has been the land I live on."

Vivid to both wild and sacred places throughout this country and the world inform and illuminate the time Davis spends on her land. Footham, a community in Northern Scotland made famous by its extraordinary gardens grown in the sand with the cooperation and guidance of the Native Kingdoms, introduced her to the concept of an invisible world patterning and guiding the visible one. Dorothy Mackinnon, one of the three original Footham architects, developed the gift, long practiced in the British Isles, of communication with the spiritual content of plants, plants, elements and trees. She writes of them as divin, angels and elements.

In her show, Davis works to find, experience and express the rhythm between wilderness here and the human desire to honor it...the longing for communication between the worlds.

Bushland Gallery is located at 137 High St. For more information, call 715-2227. ■



Sculpture from *Creatures, Gods, Angels and Elements: A Walk in the Woods*, by Squirrly Lillithal Davis.