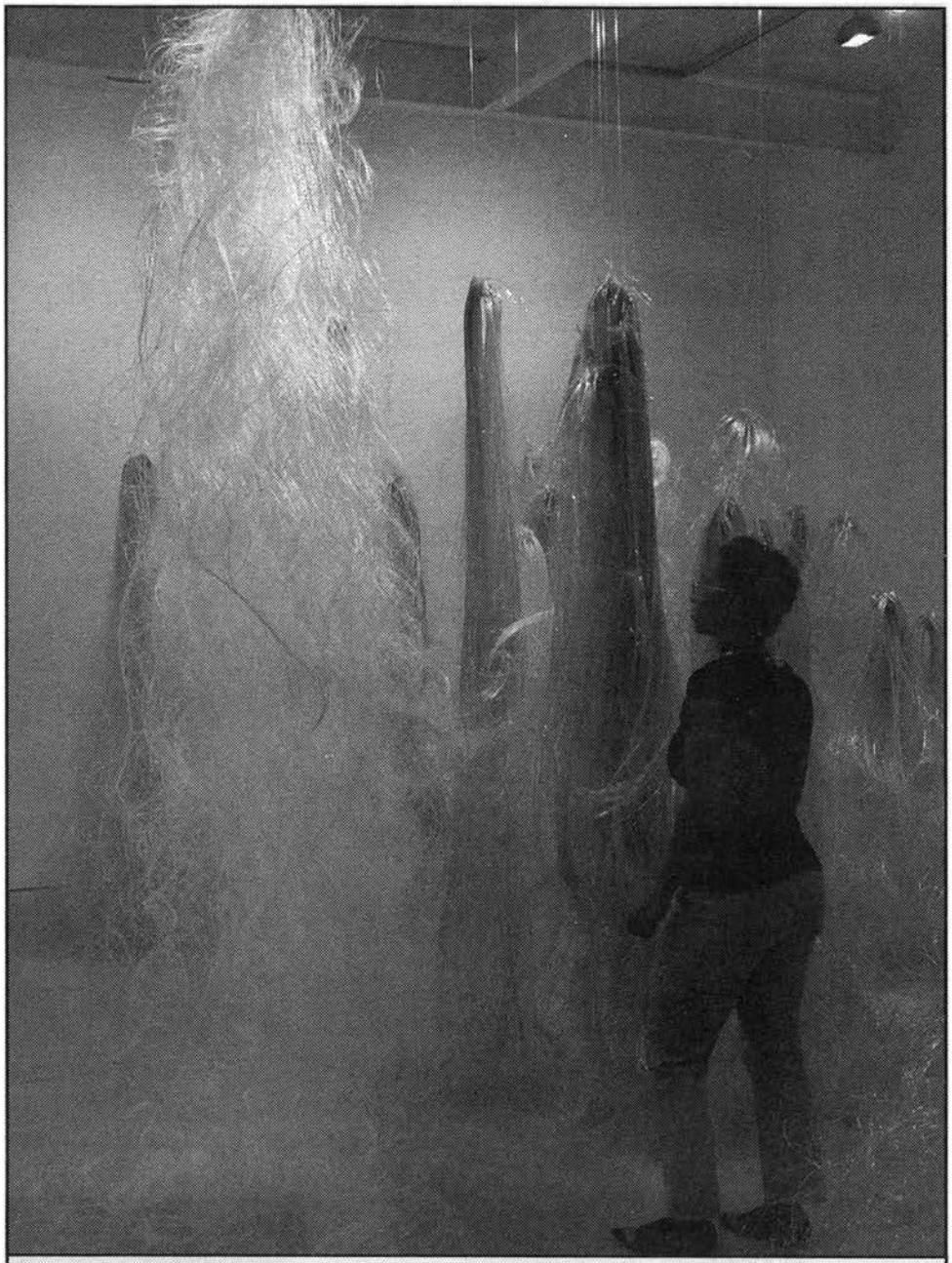
written by **NATALIE KOSS**

EXPERIENCE THE MOTLEY TAILS

Equipped with fishing line, cage clips and glue, **Sharon Louden** transforms seemingly ordinary household items into a magical wonderland of brightly colored swirling tendrils suspended in mid-air. In her new installation, "The Motley Tails" at the **Numark Gallery**, Louden creates a symphony of forms that seem more like a carnival funhouse than a sedate art gallery. This large installation transcends the usual contemporary art grimness and severity with a warm, exuberant nature. Its overwhelming tendrils and vibrant colors invite the viewer not only to view the work, but also to walk through it as one would explore a dense forest. A D.C.-area native, Louden says, "My mission is to take simple materials and transform them into things that are gestural and come alive as individuals, humorous entities unto themselves. By making massive groupings that are repetitive in nature, the groups appear to take over and gain their own presence as figures that live in the world." Louden's original concept of taking ordinary household items and posing them as natural anthropomorphic forms without a hint of strain or intention is stunning and refreshing.



"THE MOTLEY TAILS" AT THE NUMARK GALLERY: FISHING LINE AS ART.