

Interior Design



Cultural collage on display for viewing, collecting pleasure

What do Hindu philosophy, art and

postmodernism have in common? Find out Tuesday at 2 p.m., when artist Vilas Tonapé gives an oil-painting demonstration with a discourse in Hindu philosophy at the Court House Cultural Center in Stuart.

Tonapé and local artist Terry Thommes are the featured artists of the exhibit "Palms and Portraits." The exhibit of bronze cast sculptures by Thommes and oil portraits by Tonapé will be on display through Dec. 6.

Tonapé graduated with honors from Asia's prestigious Sir J.J. School of Art, University of Bombay, India, in 1992. He earned his master of fine arts degree in painting from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth in 1996.

His painting can best be described as



Vilas Tonapé



Classically inspired:

Tonapé's self-portrait (left) and a canvas entitled *Katie's Chatam* (below) are large oil paintings.

classically inspired, contemporary-realism-interpretive images that enchant the eye. Tonapé's paintings have been exhibited in museums and galleries nationally and internationally, and some belong to private collections in Canada, Germany, India and the United States.



A sculptor of high caliber, Terry Thommes earned a BFA in sculpture and metal-smithing from Western Michigan University in 1978 and an MFA degree in sculpture from the University of Georgia in 1980. He holds the Sculpture Area Chair at the Armory Art Center in West Palm Beach, where he teaches courses in sculpture and metalsmithing.

His works in stone, cast bronze, concrete and fabricated metals are created for public and private collections worldwide. Most recently, he was chosen by Martin County's Art in Public Places Commission to create a bronze sculpture for the new Port Salerno fire station.

He plans to create two large outdoor sculptures for the Capitol Sculpture Project in Tallahassee.

Some of Thommes' cast bronze



Photo by Katie Deits

Terry Thommes: The artist with his bronze sculpture *Aqua Receptor*. Pictured below is *Bronze Sables*.

pieces are whimsical interpretations of the human condition, mixed-media pieces made from a combination of materials that, in classic proportion, create a framework for the human form.

Most recently, Thommes added palm trees to his body of work — perhaps inspired because his studio is on the site of a former exotic-palm farm in Stuart.

The sculptures and paintings are available for sale and would make a dynamic addition to one's home. Gallery hours at the Court House Cultural Center, at 80 E. Ocean Blvd. in Stuart, are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

