

## **Color and style:**

**Ryan Higa and Debbie Mitchell  
bring whimsy and attitude to  
Hawaii Pacific University Gallery  
with their "Nude Sockets" and "Madame  
Horowitz's Estate Sale" exhibitions**

By Star-Bulletin Staff  
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FOR RYAN HIGA, "NUDE SOCKETS" began with its title.

"I chose it because it relates to images and themes -- and I liked how the words sound together."

Higa says the word "nude" is laden with meaning. Symbolically, it can mean feeling uncovered and vulnerable.

"Very different definitions are all related," he says. "They're tied in human frailties and failings, in feelings of awkwardness."

Higa's explorations are literally colored almost exclusively in pink. It's a color that intrigues him.

"Pink is a loaded color. It provokes an immediate response. It makes you feel something," Higa says. "I like the connotations that the color brings."

"Madame Horowitz's Estate Sale" and "Nude Sockets" run through Jan. 24 at Hawaii Pacific University Art Gallery, 45-045 Kamehameha Highway. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays. Call 544-0287.