



(Staff photo by Mark Bush)

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL** is a hallmark of drawings by Nancy L. Rini, young Albuquerque artist whose first one-man show opens Sunday at the double Mporium in Corrales.

*Albuquerque Tribune, September 12, 1968*

# 'Gobs of Detail' Mark Pen and Ink Drawings of Rini

By LYNN BUCKINGHAM  
Tribune Arts Editor

Nancy Rini has "this great huge thing about gobs of detail."

Calico prints, ornamental tiles, the heavily linear qualities of a Byzantine mosaic, intricate brocades, art nouveau wallpapers — are elements of her art in a style that rather defies description.

The first full show for this exciting artist will open Sunday at the double Mporium in Corrales. A reception is planned from 1-5 p.m.

Rini (thanks to her friends, the last name stuck but the first didn't) might best be described as a landscape artist — the ironic, treacherous landscape of the mind.

**THE SHOW**, slated to hang through October, brings together some 50 of her works in pen and pencil augmented frequently by watercolor.

It's a startling collection: figurative, disciplined, mythological, exotic and sure.

Some have found in her work deep symbolism that the painter herself has difficulty in articulating.

They say her paintings suggest "the terror of Kafka, the existential irony of Dostoyevski, the warm appreciation of Marianne Moore and the diabolical humor of Swift."

**RINI ISN'T SURE** what she sees in her own paintings but she has but one limitation in what she does: size.

Working in a tiny apartment heavily decorated with "things," Rini draws with a pad on her lap and a TV tray full of pencils at her side.

"I'm not about to quit working just because I don't have a studio," she smiles.

Although she admits that being confined to a small size could be "stifling," she finds that changing mediums helps her creative spirits.

**SHE ENJOYS** working most with pen and ink.

"and also watercolors and pencil or anything else I can lay my hands on that makes colors and lines and that I can use on a small sheet of paper in my lap!"

Rini, dark complexioned and exotic, wears her luxuriant hair parted in the center and pulled into a long braid down her back.

She's half Sicilian and says (with her fingers together in a typical Italian gesture) that it's "the only thing to be."

**SPAGHETTI** is her only claim to culinary fame since she exists primarily on what she lamely calls Taste Delight: "It's what I make when there's just a few cans of something in the house; I mix it all together and serve it on rice or noodles."

Rini, who graduated from the University of New Mexico and has done advanced work in art there, is a technical illustrator for Westinghouse Learning Corp.

She's a dedicated "thing."  
See **NANCY RINI**, page B-1

## Nancy Rini Paintings...

Continued from page B-1  
collector. "I'm a gleaner," she says. "I pick gutters."

"I'm always embarrassing people by picking things off the street... like a piece of twisted metal that's just beautiful — and there it is, just for me like a gift."

**SHE SAYS** she loves to poke around in the middle of nowhere for things like arrowheads, potsherds, and rocks — pretty rocks, ugly rocks, smooth rocks, wet rocks...

Glancing around her unbelievably cluttered apartment, she admits that she needs a bigger place to house her "collection."

One of Rini's current crusades has to do with dolls.

She voices fierce disapproval of dolls today that walk and talk and do all manner of human things.

"I used to have long, involved talks with my dolls," Rini recalls, "and I would have been very upset if mine

had talked back to me and limited my conversation."

A **CHILD** has little chance to fantasize with a Chatty Cathy sitting there talking to him, she says.

The pretty young artist even makes her own dolls — the Raggedy Ann variety — which she gives as gifts.

Her aversion to sophisticated toys extends to trucks:

"Today you find special types of trucks — milk trucks, firetrucks, etc. — where you used to have just one innocuous little truck that (with imagination) could serve as everything from a dump truck to a royal coach."

Rini came to Albuquerque ten years ago from Indiana for one big reason: she likes the out-of-doors — with no people around.

"I checked the encyclopedia and found that New Mexico had very few people per square mile. I also saw that it had mountains... so here I am."