

Holograms hover in ^{7/84} art gallery

Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — At a small museum west of Chicago's Loop, a fragile apple of green glass hangs in front of a black glass plate, tempting violation of the age-old museum rule: "Look, but don't touch!"

The glass sculpture can't be broken, though, because it isn't really there. The apple seemingly hanging before the viewer's nose is an illusion cast by a hologram, specifically a new second-generation reflection hologram by English physicist Nicholas J. Phillips.

In reflection holography, the image appears to emerge from the surface of the plate and float before the viewer. ^{ONE "TYPE"} ^{out boy}

The works are part of the permanent collection of the Museum of the Fine Arts Research and Holographic Center, devoted exclusively to the new three-dimensional art form. ^{self destructing Russian ones.}

There are moving holograms, too, although their technique is less highly perfected. To create them, motion picture footage is holographically transferred to cylindrical diffraction gratings.

When the transparent gratings revolve on their pedestals, the viewer outside sees ghostly three-dimensional images moving within the cylinders. Phantom children wave and beckon; Dracula bares his fangs; a train emerges from a tunnel; a model blows a kiss and winks; columnist Mike Royko poses rigidly, then breaks into a grin. ^{great}

Center Executive Director Loren Billings doubles as tour guide on quiet afternoons. ^(very)

"Holography is where photography was 140 years ago," she says. "It's an art of the future."

^{the future is now babe.}

THIS COULD HAVE BEEN WRITTEN IN 1979 + SOUNDED THE SAME