



WALT MANCINI / STAFF

**ARTISTIC ENDEAVOR:** Altadena artists Edward Beckett, left, holding his "secular icon" painting; Bob Young, holding ceramic pieces of John McCain and Barack Obama; and Robert Moore are photographed at Beckett Hall on Thursday.

## Three artists in exhibition

By **Janette Williams**

Staff Writer

ALTADENA — Presidential election politics may be over, but the artwork goes on.

A ceramic head of President-elect Barack Obama shares a chair with candidate John McCain's — a cozy two-some that defines artistic license — to greet visitors to a new art show opening Saturday and running through Dec. 19.

"I call them my political 'Dunder-heads,'" artist Bob Young said of his series of ceramic caricatures, which he began with a sculpture of Kenneth Starr during the Bill Clinton impeachment era.

"Then Scooter Libby got me," Young said. "I did one of him and it was so much fun that I did Karl Rove, (Donald) Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney and, of course, we have 'The Decider,'" referring to President George W. Bush.

A Republican friend and fellow artist criticized him for being "lopsided" in caricaturing GOP politicians, Young said.

"So I did John Kerry. He looked like a bloodhound. It's a wonderful face to caricature."

Young, a longtime Altadena resident

who now lives in Morro Bay, has joined renowned Altadena artists Bob Moore and Edward Beckett for the show in Beckett's house.

The 1915 mansion, 1051 E. Altadena Drive, was built for Kate Duncan, Pasadena's pioneer dress designer, and the grand surroundings showcase the three artists' paintings and sculptures, including the "secular icons" that have become Beckett's signature.

One is a traditional sacred icon, painted using the prescribed "21 theological steps," Beckett said. But others, using the same painstaking techniques, are symbolic, not tied to any religion.

"They are objects that make prayer and meditation available to anyone, not just Orthodox" Christians, he said. "This one's a guardian angel for keyboards."

Moore worked for 20 years building Rose Parade floats for Festival Arts. Now he uses his design and welding skills to transform left-over metal scraps into kinetic sculptures whose moving parts operate with springs.

The opening-day reception, with presentation by all three artists, is from 3 to 10 p.m. Saturday.

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