Vancouver woman turns scraps into art

The materials provided the inspiration for Kelly Keigwin’s mixed-media collection, “Picking Up the Pieces.” Keigwin went through her garage and found scrap plexiglass and wood. She started asking herself what those recycled odds and ends might become.

The result is a series of pieces using the plexiglass mounted on wood almost as a frame for layered text and images from old magazines, as well as photos from her own collection and those of family and friends.

“It’s all about layering and taking away. You see different parts of different images. Some images you see through,” said Keigwin, a 42-year-old Vancouver artist who’s also taking classes at Clark College.

“Picking Up the Pieces” is on display through the end of the month at Angst Gallery in Vancouver. The pièce de résistance is a triptych self-portrait, tentatively titled “All of Me.” In this piece, Keigwin’s body is composed of images of family, friends and things that comprise her past. Around her head float images of things she thinks about.

“Just different stuff that kind of makes up who I am today and how I see the world,” she said.