

Galleries & Museums

Now Showing

Our Animal Selves

G

Special Events

Briefly Garden installation by Melinda Fries, Sat 1/7, 1-5 PM, at 1958 W. Walnut, 773-412-2501. ... Launch party for Blanc, a perfume by artist Matthew Girson, flogged as "a must for all people strong enough to live in a realm of blank emptiness," Sat 1/7, 6-9 PM, at Suburban, 244 Lake, Oak Park, 708-763-8554. ... Paintings by Erik Sosa and a benefit reception for Urban Gateways, Thu 1/12, 6-9 PM, at Wag, 2121 W. Division, \$10, 773-772-2922.

Galleries

Jean Albano 215 W. Superior. "Scapes," work by Gladys Nilsson, Mindy Weisel, Karl Wirsum, and others, through Sat 2/4. Mon 11-4, Tue-Fri 10-5, Sat 11-5. 312-440-0770

Anchor Graphics 119 W. Hubbard #5W. J. Catherine Bebout, prints, Sat 1/7-Sat 2/18. **Bebout** gives a talk and studio demo Sat 1/7, 3 PM; a reception follows. Tue-Sat noon-5, Thu noon-7. 312-595-9598

ARC 734 N. Milwaukee. Work by ARC affiliate members; Samar Madonpour, installation of 3,000 "Internet photographs mounted on ceramic tiles of Iranian women wearing hijab," through Sat 1/28. **Reception** Fri 1/6, 6-9 PM. Wed-Sat noon-6, Sun noon-4. 312-733-2787

Architech 730 N. Franklin #200. "Dream Machines," industrial design drawings by R.G. Martelet, through Sat 3/25. Thu-Sat noon-5. 312-475-1290

Bell Studio 3428 N. Southport. Eileen Meindl O'Hagan, abstract paintings, through Sun 1/8. **Mon-Fri** noon-7, Sat 11-7, Sun noon-5. 773-281-2172

Beverly Arts Center 2407 W. 111th. Winning entries from an annual art contest, through Sat 1/7. **Mon-Fri** 10-9, Sat 10-5, Sun noon-5. 773-445-3838

Bodybuilder & Sportsman 119 N. Peoria #2C. Melissa Pokorny, sculpture playing off "the home improvement phenomena, from garish interiors to the starkly un-pretty do-it-yourself accessible to all through Home Depot and Ikea"; Paul Nudd, drawings, collages, and video, through Sat 1/14. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-492-7261

Roy Boyd 739 N. Wells. Carlos Estrada-Vega, paintings, through Tue 2/7. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Tue-Sat 10-5:30. 312-642-1606

Lisa Boyle 1648 W. Kinzie. Brian Getnick, installation and works on paper, through Sat 1/7. **Fri-Sat** noon-6. 773-655-5475

Bucket Rider 119 N. Peoria #3D. "Can I Get a Witness?," art by Brian Kapernekas, Michael Schmelling, and others; work by Eddie Martinez, through Sat 1/28. Tue-Sat noon-6. 312-421-6993

Valerie Carberry 875 N. Michigan #2510. American abstract paintings 1900-'60, through Sat 2/4. **Mon-Fri** 9-5, Sat 11-5. 312-397-9990

Chicago Photography Center 3301 N. Lincoln. Black-and-white photos by nine artists, through Sat 1/7. **Sat** 10-4, Sun noon-4. 773-549-1631

Chicago Tourism Center 72 E. Randolph. "People of the Mud," work by Chris

A competitive Scottish dancer in childhood, LA artist **Ashley Macomber** installed her show of animal drawings and paintings at Kavi Gupta in imitation of a performance. Facing an entrance framed by black curtains, the creatures in five drawings represent "audience members watching," she says; the whale even holds spectacles. In the larger room five animal paintings are propped against the wall, "coming into the space, interacting with the viewer"; the effect is menacing, in part because the images can be bloody and mysterious, like the beasts in scary children's stories. Macomber says she's influenced in part by the "iconography of the fairy tale"—a deer eating its own heart is meant to be a queen, and a wolf in regal attire holding a bloody sword a king. A painting of three winged wolves represents the Fates.

At four Macomber started both ballet and Highland dance, including the solo sword dance, where the performer crosses a sword and its sheath and dances around them. The competitions were intense. "We'd get up as early as 5 AM. You'd face the judges, sitting at a table all looking at you, and behind them were your parents and the audience." At first she excelled. "I remember my mom being very excited when I won. But around age 10 or 11 I really stopped enjoying it. I would try to speak up, but my mom would say things like, 'You have your friends in it—don't you like hanging out with your friends?' I did—and I didn't want to disappoint her." Macomber preferred ballet: "When you're a little girl, a pink tutu is much nicer than a stuffy kilt and weird socks."

By 15 she'd abandoned the competitions; she'd also realized she was too tall to ever dance ballet professionally and started hanging around the art room at her high school. One of her first projects was to draw from the photographs in the book *The*

Ashley Macomber
WHEN Through Sat 1/28
WHERE Kavi Gupta, 835
 W. Washington
INFO 312-432-0708

Design focused on popular culture: "I realized how ridiculous TV, boy bands, professional wrestling all were—but I loved them, and still do." Partly inspired by the felt Christmas tree ornaments her mom had used in an Advent calendar and partly by velvet Elvis paintings, she did cutout portraits of the Backstreet Boys in felt. She also wrote and recorded a song in the invented persona of a pop singer, made a video of herself performing it over and over while "getting more and more out of control," and built a miniature house where visitors could watch it.

After graduating in 2000 Macomber began drawing animals; she's not sure why. But her animals' expressions are decidedly human. Macomber's parents divorced in her infancy, and by the time she was three both had remarried. "I was told that I came from a happy divorce, because my parents got along. I thought, Sure, I come from a happy family of divorced people. But a divorce is a divorce, and it affects you. I started realizing that the way I felt didn't match what I'd been told." She says that now she watches families all the time. "Just last night at



The Queen, Villain #1

the mall a girl of about four or five was sobbing her eyes out. Her brother, about 12, was holding her hand and asking her what was wrong, until the mother said, 'I'm the parent,' and pulled her away." Macomber says she "pretty much loves" her family at this point but believes that a psychological commonplace informs most lives: "I don't know a single person who doesn't become their parents." Her painting *Brother/Sister, the Codependents* shows two deer with

nooses around their necks holding hands. And Macomber says *The Heroine, Voice and Voicelessness*, in which a wolf cradles a deer, represents "two different versions of one person. The deer holds a rock and has inflicted pain upon itself, and the wolf is trying to save her. It's a struggle between the two different aspects of a person, about finding a voice within the chaos, becoming an individual within a family."
 —Fred Camper

Garofalo, Corinne Peterson, Xavier Toubes, and a dozen other local ceramicists, through Sat 4/1. **Talk** by some of the artists, Tue 1/10, 6 PM. **Mon-Fri** 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 11-5. 312-744-6630

City Water Tower, 806 N. Michigan. Herb Migdoll, photos of costumed dancers riding carousels, through Mon 1/9. **Mon-Sat** 10-6:30, Sun 10-5. 312-742-0808

City Bookshop 1921 W. Irving Park. Nadine Nakanishi, paintings, through Sat 1/7. **Sat** 12:30-7, Sun 12:30-6. 773-880-2414

Columbia College A+D Gallery 619 S. Wabash. Annual juried print show sponsored by the International Print Center New York, Thu 1/12-Sat 2/18. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-344-8687

Columbia College Glass Curtain Gallery 1104 S. Wabash. "Gifts of New Orleans: Music and Culture," photos, audio recordings, printed music, and other archival material documenting NOLA's musical traditions, including the "musical connections between New Orleans and Chicago," Thu 1/12-Fri 2/17. Tue-Wed & Fri 10-5, Mon & Thu 10-7. 312-344-6643

Columbia College Hokin Gallery 623 S. Wabash. "Between the Sheets," artists' books, paintings, photos, and other work picked to illustrate "the societal dilemmas of sex and pornography," through Thu 1/12. **Mon-Thu** 9-7, Fri 9-5. 312-344-7663

Melanee Cooper 740 N. Franklin. Kathleen Waterloo, encaustic paintings "inspired by the streets of Chicago," through Sat 2/25. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Tue-Fri 11-5, Sat noon-4. 312-202-9305

Corbett vs. Dempsey 1120 N. Ashland. Briggs Dyer, Paul LaMantia, paintings and drawings made in the 1960s, through Sat 1/7. **Fri-Sat** 11-4. 773-278-1664

Country Club Chicago 1100 N. Damen. Stephanie Serpick, paintings, through Fri 1/6. **Reception** Fri 1/6, 6-10 PM. Sat-Sun noon-6. 773-960-1811

Stephen Daiter 311 W. Superior #404-408. Martin Parr, photos "which elaborate on the concept of the individual power and collective force of fashion," through Sat 3/4. Wed-Sat 11-6. 312-787-3350

Caro d'Offay 2204 W. North. Group show of "lumetype" prints, through Sat 3/18. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 7-10 PM. Tue-Thu & Sat 1-6. Sat-Sun 1/7-1/8, 1-9 PM. 773-235-7400

Catherine Edelman 300 W. Superior. "On the Street," photos by Bruce Davidson, through Sat 2/25. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Tue-Sat 10-5:30. 312-266-2350

Fine Arts Bldg. Gallery 410 S. Michigan #433. Work by artists with studios in the building, through Sat 1/28. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Wed-Sat noon-6. 312-913-0537

Finestra 410 S. Michigan #516. John Stolfo, paintings and works on paper, through Tue 1/31. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM; Stolfo discusses the influence of Goethe and Steiner on his work at 6. Fri-Sat 2-6. 847-977-0526

Flatfile 217 N. Carpenter. Jason Peot, Bob Emser, sculpture; *Helices (Propellers)*, installation by Alain Giraud, through Fri 2/24. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 5-9 PM. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-491-1190

40000 1001 N. Winchester. "The Family Hominidae," digitally altered photos by

Brian Andrews, through Sat 1/7. **Wed-Sat** 1-6. 773-342-4930

Gallery 400 Univ. of Illinois at Chicago 1240 W. Harrison. *Death by Design, Co.*, project by Michelle Maynard and Teena McClelland that converts the gallery into a "film set where visitors engage in an in-depth conversation about life via their own 'Hollywood' death," Tue 1/10-Sat 1/28. **Reception** Wed 1/11, 5-8 PM. Tue-Fri 10-5, Sat noon-5. 312-996-6114

Gallery 1633 1633 N. Damen. Group show, through Sat 1/7. **Fri-Sun** noon-5. 773-384-4441

Gescheidle 118 N. Peoria, 4th fl. "La Frontera," group show; Patrick Welch, "miniature hate paintings and mini-insult blocks," through Sat 1/14. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-226-3500

Green Lantern 1511 N. Milwaukee, 2nd fl. Vivian Haas, paintings and installations that promise to "capture parodic revelry through the eyes of an innocent," through Thu 2/23. **Opens** Fri 1/6, 6-9 PM. Sat 1-6. 773-235-0936

Listings are compiled by Joel Score and Tamara Faulkner from information available Monday. For additional listings see www.chicagoreader.com. Hours and closing dates are prone to change; readers are urged to call ahead. Many museums have ongoing exhibits not detailed here, and gal-

eries commonly have work by numerous artists on their rosters available for viewing. Some museums offer discounted admission for Chicago residents. Please send exhibit info and images to Art Listings, Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago 60611, or artlistings@chicagoreader.com.

Kavi Gupta 835 W. Washington. Ashley Macomber, paintings (see Now Showing); "India: Two Views," work by Danica Phelps and Debi Ray-Chaudhuri, through Sat 1/28. Tue-Fri 10-6, Sat 11-5. 312-432-0708

Habatat 222 W. Superior. Toots Zynsky, vessels formed using glass thread, through Sat 2/4. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 5-7 PM. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-440-0288

Carl Hammer 740 N. Wells. "All About Women," group show, through Sat 2/4. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 5:30-8 PM. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-266-8512

Rhona Hoffman 118 N. Peoria. "Speculative Zoogeny," sculpture by Chris Garofalo; Tania Bruguera, installation, through Sat 2/4. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 5-7:30 PM. Tue-Fri 10-5:30, Sat 11-5:30. 312-455-1990



Fall of Tenochtitlan, collage by Michael Brieger, part of a group show opening Friday at Judy Saslow

Hull House Center for the Arts 1136 W. Wilson. Work by five Lithuanian artists, Sat 1/7-Tue 2/14. **●** Opens with live music Sat 1/7, 6-9 PM. Mon-Fri 10-6, Wed 11-7, Sat noon-5. 773-907-9403

Hyde Park Arts Center 5307 S. Hyde Park. "Hints for the Tourist," collages by James Garrett Faulkner, through Sun 1/8. Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat-Sun noon-5. 773-324-5520

Illinois Institute of Art 350 N. Orleans. Carrie Notari, photos of sea creatures, through Wed 1/11. Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5. 312-280-3500

Illinois Institute of Art 180 N. Wabash. Andrew Conklin, figurative paintings, through Fri 1/13. Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5. 773-508-0400

Instituto Cervantes 875 N. Michigan #2940. Enrique Romero Santana, paintings from the series "Transit of Light," through Wed 1/11. Mon-Thu 9-7:30, Fri 9-5, Sat 9-1. 312-335-1996

Gwenda Jay/Addington 704 N. Wells. Amanda Crandall, landscape paintings, through Wed 2/8. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-664-3406

Johnsonese 2149 W. Armitage. David Harouni, Joey Wozniak, paintings constructed using the palimpsest method of applying paint then scraping it away, Sat 1/7-Sat 2/4. **●** Opens Sat 1/7, 6-9 PM. Tue-Sat 11-6. 773-252-8750

Kamp 140 E. Walton. 19th- and 20th-century paintings "celebrating winter," Sat 1/7-Fri 3/17. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-664-0090

Stephen Kelly 750 N. Franklin. Lisa Kaplan, Stephen Kelly, Michael Hoffman,



My House on Mars, painting by Lara Fosberg, at the Museum of Contemporary Art (opening Friday, artist's talk Tuesday)

paintings, through Sat 1/28. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-867-1921

Alan Koppel 210 W. Chicago. Larry Bell, sculpture, through Fri 1/27. Mon-Fri 10-5:30, Thu till 6; Sat 11-5:30. 312-640-0730

Kristoffer's Cafe 1733 S. Halsted. Work by Kimberly Darovec, through Mon 1/9. Mon-Fri 8-8, Sat-Sun 9-5. 312-829-4150

Las Manos 5220 N. Clark. Group show of works on paper, Sat 1/7-Sun 1/29. Sat-Sun noon-5. 773-728-8910

David Leonardis 1346 N. Paulina. Group show, through Tue 1/10. Tue-Sat noon-5. 773-278-3058

Llorona 1474 W. Webster. Agustin Casasola, photos of the Mexican revolution, through Fri 1/13. Tue-Fri 10-5:30, Sat-Sun 4-7. 773-281-8460

Lobby 731 N. Sangamon. "Terra Incognita," installation by Jenny Roberts creating a "topography of plains and hills" out of indoor/outdoor carpeting, through Sat 1/14. Sat noon-5. 312-432-4327

Lydon 309 W. Superior. Genell Miller, Lucy Clink, paintings of Italian landscapes and gardens, through Thu 3/9. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 5-8 PM. Tue-Sat 10-5, Sun 9-2. 312-943-1133

Madron 1000 W. North, 3rd fl. Work by 30 artists "showing scenes in the cities and towns in which they worked," through Fri 2/24. **●** Opens Fri 1/6, 1-6 PM. Mon-Fri 9-5. 312-640-1302

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