

Galleries & Museums



Waterfall, painting by Amy Talluto, at Rowland Contemporary

Sat 11/26. Sat noon-5. 773-344-1940

Portals 742 N. Wells. Jorge Simes, paintings and works on paper, through Wed 3/1. Tue-Fri 10-5, Sat 11-5. 312-642-1066

Practical Angle 161 E. Erie. Work by Vlado Ketch and Stuart Brent, through Fri 12/16. Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5. 312-280-8118

Printworks 311 W. Superior #105. Arthur Lerner, drawings, through Sat 11/26. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-664-9407

Byron Roche 750 N. Franklin. Rebecca Shore, egg tempera paintings and drawings, through Fri 11/25. Paul Hunter, Jiwon Son, paintings, through Sat 12/31. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-654-0144

Roosevelt University Gage Gallery 18 S. Michigan. Work "respond[ing] to the promise of freedom," through Fri 12/9. Mon-Fri 9-6. 312-341-6458

Rosenthal Fine Art 3 E. Huron. Helmut Horn, photos, through Fri 11/25. Mon-Sat 10-6. 312-475-0700

Rowland Contemporary 1118 W. Fulton. Amy Talluto, paintings and drawings, through Sat 12/3. Sat 11-5. 312-421-6275

Judy A. Saslow 300 W. Superior. "Scene in Chicago," work by locals; work by members of the Chicago Furniture Designers Association, through Fri 12/30. Tue-Sat 10-6. 312-943-0530

Schneider 230 W. Superior. Work by Natasha Cherkashin and Valera Cherkashin, through Sat 11/26. Tue-Fri 10:30-5, Sat 11-5. 312-988-4033

School of the Art Institute Gallery 2 847 W. Jackson. "I Saw You," art by students inspired by *Reader* personals; "Knock Knock," work from a class on humor in art and photography; student video installations; design and writing by MFAs, through Sat 12/3. Readings, Wed-Thu 11/16-11/17, 7 PM. Tue-Sat 11-6. 312-563-5162

SAIC Betty Rymer Gallery 280 S. Columbus. *Now Read On*, ten "tableaux" juxtaposing work by Roger Brown (1941-'97) and Jesse Howard (1885-1983), through Fri 11/18. Open reading of Howard's signs (visitor participation invited), with music inspired by his work performed by Mark Stevenson, Fri 11/11, 5:30 PM. Tue-Sat 10 AM-5 PM. 312-443-3703

Schopf 942 W. Lake. "Constructing Gender," photos by Tricia Moreau Sweeney; photos by Indiana Univ. MFAs, through Sat 11/19. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-432-1630

Carrie Secrist 835 W. Washington. Bernar

Venet, sculpture, through Sat 11/12. Tue-Fri 10-6, Sat 11-5. 312-491-0917

65 Grand 1378 W. Grand #3F. David Corbett, paintings, through Fri 11/11. Fri-Sat noon-6. 312-243-4325

Skestos Gabriele 212 N. Peoria. Shona Macdonald, Susannah Papish Horner, paintings, through Sat 11/12. Tue-Fri 11-6, Sat noon-5. 312-243-1112

South Side Community Art Center Burroughs Gallery 3831 S. Michigan. Elizabeth Catlett, prints, Sun 11/13-Sat 12/3. Opens Sun 11/13, 1:30-2:30 PM. Group show, through Sat 11/19. Wed noon-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5. 773-373-1026

Steelelife 4655 S. King, 2nd fl. "Beenpaintingmyassoff," work by Max Sansing, through Sat 12/10. Opens Fri 11/11, 6-9 PM. Tue-Sat 1-8. 773-538-4773

3Arts Club 1300 N. Dearborn. Marva Pitchford Jolly, ceramic sculpture; Rhonda Wheatley, paintings, through Thu 12/15. Mon-Fri 9-5. 312-744-6630

Three Walls 119 N. Peoria #2A. Lisa Caccioppoli, paintings, through Sat 11/12. Wed-Sat noon-6. 312-432-3972

Univ. of Illinois African American Cultural Center Addams Hall, 830 S. Halsted #207. Work by Marcus Alleyne, through Wed 11/30. Reception Sat 11/12, 1-4 PM, with a talk by Alleyne at 2 PM. Mon-Fri 8:30-4:45. 312-996-9549

Vespine 1907 S. Halsted. Sharon Harper, paintings; Erin Cramer, installations, through Sat 11/26. Opens Fri 11/11, 7-10 PM. Fri 4-9, Sat 10-4. 312-962-5850

Vonzweck 1626 N. Humboldt. "The Robot of the Subconscious," drawings, multiples, and videos by Steve Reinke, through Wed 11/23. Thu 6-9. 773-208-7222

Wag 2121 W. Division. Group show of "giveable" work, through Sat 12/31. Tue-Thu 11-6, Fri-Sat 11-7, Sun noon-5. 773-772-2922

Walsh 118 N. Peoria. Kim Joon, photos; "Street Stories," "unconventional views" of Chicago by eight artists, through Fri 12/2. Tue-Sat 10:30-5:30. 312-829-2212

Linda Warren 1052 W. Fulton. "Cul de Sac," paintings by Peter Drake, through Sat 1/7. Tue-Sat 11-5. 312-432-9500

Western Exhibitions 1648 W. Kinzie, 2nd fl. "Mixed Baggage," work by Adriane Herman "re-creating found lists from anonymous writers"; John Parot, photos of his digs embellished with "pie charts and diagrams"; Stan Shellabarger, photos and

drawings documenting projects, through Sat 12/17. Fri-Sat noon-6. 312-307-4685

Donald Young 933 W. Washington. Robert Mangold, works on paper, through Sat 12/3. Tue-Fri 10-5:30, Sat 11-5:30. 312-455-0100

Zg 300 W. Superior. Work by six artists, through Sat 11/19. Tue-Sat 10-5:30. 312-654-9900

Suburban

College of Lake County Wright Gallery 19351 W. Washington, Grayslake. Reginald Coleman, paintings, through Fri 12/16. Opens Fri 11/11, 7-9 PM. 847-543-2240

Open Studio Project 901 Sherman, Evanston. Cal Calvird, painted foil and tape sculpture; Jeff Strong, paintings based on photos of his sculpture, through Sun 12/11. Reception Fri 11/11, 6-9 PM. Tue-Thu 10-3, Wed 7-9 also, Sat noon-5. 847-475-0390

Suburban Fine Arts 1957 Sheridan, Highland Park. David Jones, Elke Klaus, Thomas Lucas, and Jennifer York, works on paper, through Tue 11/29. Opens Fri 11/11, 6:30-8:30 PM. Mon-Sat 9-5. 847-432-1888

Museums

Adler Planetarium 1300 S. Lake Shore Dr. "Lost Spacecraft," the Mercury 4 capsule and related artifacts, through Sun 1/8. Mon-Fri 9:30-4:30, Sat-Sun 9-4:30. \$7; \$6 seniors; \$4 kids 4-17 (+ \$5 per sky show). 312-922-7827

Art Institute of Chicago Michigan & Adams. Elizabeth Catlett, prints recently acquired by the museum, Sun 11/13-Mon 2/6, gallery 141. Black-tie reception, Sat 11/12, 5:30 PM, \$125. Gallery talk, Wed 11/16, noon. "On the Scene," photos by Chicagoans Jessica Rowe, Jason Salavon, and Brian Ulrich, Sat 11/12-Sat 1/28. Renzo Piano, models and renderings of AIC's future north wing, through Sun 12/4, Gallery 200. Michael Asher, installation (Gallery 220), plus related documents and photos (Ryerson Reading Room), through Sun 1/1. Gallery talk, Tue 11/15, noon. "1945: Creativity and Crisis, Chicago Architecture and Design of the World War II Era," through Sun 1/8, Gallery 227. Mon-Fri 10:30-4:30, Thu till 8; Sat-Sun 10-5. \$12

Sun 12/4. "Paths to the Press: Printmaking and American Women Artists, 1910-1960," graphics by some 75 artists; Maybelle Stamper, works on paper; Steina Vasulka, videos from the 1970s, through Sun 12/11. Exhibit tours, 2 PM Saturdays and Sundays, through 12/11. Tue 10-5, Wed-Fri 10-8, Sat-Sun noon-5. 847-491-4000

Chicago Architecture Foundation ArchiCenter 224 S. Michigan. "Five Architects," documentation of buildings designed by firms with female principals, through Sun 11/20. Univ. of Michigan architecture prof Caroline Constant discusses the work of architect Eileen Gray, Wed 11/16, 12:15 PM. Photos of buildings by Holabird & Root, through Sun 2/26. Daily 9:30-6. 312-922-3432

Chicago Children's Museum Navy Pier, 700 E. Grand. Daily 10-5, Thu & Sat till 8. \$7; \$6 seniors; kids under one free. Thu 5-8 free; first Monday of each month free. 312-527-1000

Chicago Cultural Center 78 E. Washington. Shona Macdonald, abstract landscapes in ink and watercolor, Sat 11/12-Sun 1/15. Gallery talk by Macdonald, Thu 11/17, 12:15 PM. Julio Gonzalez, metal sculpture, Wed 11/16-Sun 1/8. Eleftheria Lialios, photo transparencies and other work, through Sun 11/13. "Water Towers: The Chicago Prize," entries from a competition for proposals for "preservation and creative reuse of the city's historic rooftop water tanks," through Sun 1/29. Curators Lorelei Stewart, Robert Sill, Tricia Van Eck, and Lisa Dorin discuss the role of museums, Thu 11/17, 6 PM. Mon-Thu 10-7, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 11-5. 312-346-3278

Chicago Historical Society 1601 N. Clark. "Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America"; "A Compassionate Eye," 1960s shots by photojournalist Declan Haun; 1920s posters for the South Shore Line, through Sun 12/4. Mon-Wed noon-8, Sat 9:30-4:30, Sun noon-5. \$5 suggested admission; \$3 students, seniors; \$1 kids 6-



She's Complicated, oil painting by Max Sansing, whose show opens Friday at SteeleLife

Zhou B. Center 1029 W. 35th. Paul Sierra, John Himmelfarb, paintings, through Sat 11/19. Tue-Sat noon-6. 312-493-4330

Zolla Lieberman 325 W. Huron. John Buck, prints and sculpture, through Sat 12/10. Tue-Fri 10-5:30, Sat 11-5:30. 312-944-1990

suggested admission; \$7 students, seniors, kids six and up. Tuesdays free. 312-443-3600

Block Museum of Art Northwestern Univ., 40 Arts Circle Dr., Evanston. Marion Mahony Griffin, architectural and botanical drawings and landscape paintings, through

12. Mondays free. 312-642-4600

Chinese-American Museum 238 W. 23rd. "Paper Sons: Chinese in the Midwest 1870-1945," through Thu 12/1. Fri 9:30-1:30, Sat-Sun 10-5. \$2, \$1 students and seniors. 312-949-1000

DePaul Univ. Museum 2350 N. Kenmore. "Ideas About Time," photos by Mark Klett; "The Biography of Landscape: Jackson Park," photos of the site of the 1893 Columbian Exposition by Steve Harp, through Wed 11/23. ►Mon-Thu 11-5, Fri 11-7, Sat-Sun noon-5. 773-325-7506

DuSable Museum of African American History 740 E. 56th Pl. Kwanzaa exhibit, Tue 11/15-Thu 1/5. ... "Bold Improvisation: 120 Years of African-American Quilts," through Sun 1/8. ... "100 Plus One," photos and artifacts related to American recorded music, through Sun 4/2. ►Tue-Sat 10-5, Sun noon-5. \$3; \$2 students, seniors; \$1 kids 6-13. Sundays free. 773-947-0600

Elmhurst Art Museum 150 Cottage Hill, Elmhurst. "Gardens of Earth and Water," prints and watercolors by Keith Achepohl, through Sun 1/15. Gallery talk focusing on printmaking techniques, Wed 11/16, 6:30 PM. ►Tue, Thu & Sat 10-4, Wed 1-8, Fri & Sun 1-4. \$4; \$3 seniors; \$2 students. 630-834-0202

Field Museum 1400 S. Lake Shore Dr. "Jungles," color photos by Frans Lanting, through Sun 1/1. ... "Pompeii: Stories From an Eruption," artifacts of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Oplontis, destroyed in 79 AD by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius, through Sun 3/26 (see below for admission surcharge). ... "Dinosaur Dynasty," fossils and casts of fossils unearthed in China, through Sun 4/23 (see below for admission surcharge). ... "Transforming Tradition," coiled ceramic vessels from Mexico's pre-Columbian Casas Grandes culture and contemporary pots from Mata Ortiz, through Sun 5/28. ... Ongoing: "Sue," reconstructed *T. rex* skeleton; "Underground Adventure" (see below for admission surcharge). ►Daily 9-5. \$12; \$7 students, seniors, kids 4-11; teachers & toddlers free. General admission free Mondays and Tuesdays, through 12/20. ("Dinosaur Dynasty" or "Underground Adventure": add \$7, \$4 kids. "Pompeii": \$19, \$14 students and seniors, \$9 kids.) 312-922-9410

Illinois State Museum 100 W. Randolph #2-100. "Art in the Abstract," work by Judy Chicago, Julia Fish, and other Illinois artists from 1913 on, through Fri 2/17. ►Mon-Fri 9-5. 312-814-5322

International Museum of Surgical Science 1524 N. Lake Shore Dr. "Graft," drawings by Alice Leora Briggs; "Family Portraits," embroidered and painted images of relatives' diseased cells and organs by Leigh Anne Lester, through Fri 1/20. ►Tue-Sun 10-4. \$6; \$3 students, seniors. Tuesdays free. 312-642-6502

Loyola Univ. Museum of Art 820 N. Michigan. "From Soldier to Saint," engravings illustrating the legend of Ignatius of Loyola, thought to be based on drawings by Peter Paul Rubens, through Tue 2/7. ... "Caravaggio: Una Mostra Impossibile," reproductions of the paintings of Caravaggio, through Sat 2/11. Curator Judy

Now Showing

The Power of a Few Lines

With their poetic air and mix of abstraction and representation, **Jered Sprecher's** gentle, tentative paintings and drawings suggest the work of Gerhard Richter. In fact Richter was an influence, but an encounter with an elderly woman while Sprecher was in grad school was even more important. While still an undergraduate at Concordia University in Nebraska, Sprecher went on a class trip to a nursing home to do clay portraits of the residents, then later returned to sketch them on his own. "My lines were a bit scratchy and shaky," he says, "and I began to think of their frailness as depicting the state the patients were in. Interacting with these people and hearing their stories seemed more important than the art I was making." The physical and mental deterioration of some of these formerly fit, productive farmers and nurses made him aware of his own mortality.

After graduating in 1999, Sprecher enrolled in an MFA program at the University of Iowa and found another nursing home to visit. But he was becoming frustrated with his work: "The drawings didn't go any further than their illustrative aspect—they were just reiterating what I was seeing."

Then on one visit he noticed that a wheelchair patient, Esther, was watching his every move as he sketched, and he asked if she wanted to draw. "First she drew this rectangle and put four circles in it. I was confused as to what it was supposed to be. She said, pointing to her glasses, 'That's me.' She drew another box with parallel lines and said, 'That's the book that I'm reading.' Then she took the pencil and started making zigzag lines and said, 'That's me exercising.' She made these compelling drawings through much simpler means than my own. They functioned like signs or symbols, hitting upon something that my drawings were lacking." He stopped making portraits and began experimenting, collaging thick gobs of paint with fragments of paper and pieces of his own drawings. He tried to suggest the aging process by attacking these surfaces with a



Never Finished, Last Days

rotary sander. He applied paint to old rags and hung them on the wall, and smeared daubs of white paint on raw canvas with a palette knife.

In 2003, a year after receiving his MFA, Sprecher and his wife moved to New York (they now live in Knoxville, where he got a teaching job). Inspired in part by the city's visual cacophony, he began to collect scraps with obscure origins. One piece of cardboard, for example, had holes punched in it that seemed to have been made for a specific, if mysterious, purpose. Sprecher began making drawings that he thought of "as something you could find on the street and would wonder about." He exhibits collections of them under the title *Never Finished*: though the drawings themselves don't change, the collections vary in size and in what's included. The *Never Finished* amalgam of 21 pieces at Wendy Cooper includes one drawing with three black triangles at the left of a green field while another has only a tiny tree at the bottom of a blank sheet.

Sprecher's interest in history dates from a childhood visit to the Alamo: after that, he and a friend began making drawings of battles, altering them as the battle progressed by adding explosions and the movements of troops. In college, where he double majored in art and history, he learned that "the more you dug, the more complicated and interconnected the world seemed." He learned from his mathematician wife that applications of pure math to the real world don't always fit, and in art, that Mondrian's grids and the utopian ideal behind them, he says, "aren't always appropriate to the situation." *Last Days*, copied from a found photo of a disco ball, presents a slightly warped grid with many blank areas. *Fault (17)*, based on a photo of a parking lot, shows what appears to be a white highway line against gray—and another line higher up against a darker gray. Esther's lesson of the power of a few lines can be seen in this work, whose white strip hovering near the top makes the drawing disorienting and even a bit ominous. —Fred Camper

Mann discusses the work of Caravaggio and Artemisia Gentileschi, Thu 11/17, 5:30 PM. ►Tue 10-8, Wed-Sun 10-5. \$6, \$5 seniors, students and kids under 14 free. Tuesdays free. 312-915-7600

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum 1852 W. 19th. "Dia de los Muertos: The Journey Home," annual Day of the Dead group show, through Sun 12/11. A companion sound-art exhibit runs through Fri 12/23. ►Tue-Sun 10-5. 312-738-1503

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian Kendall College, 2600 Central Park, Evanston. "Sisters to Sacajawea: Women in

Native American Life," through Sun 1/29. ►Tue-Sat 10-5, Thu till 8; Sun noon-4. \$5 suggested admission; \$2.50 kids, students, seniors; \$10 max per family. 847-475-1030

Museum of Contemporary Art 220 E. Chicago. Alexander Calder, sculpture, Sat 11/12-Sun 8/27. ... Mequitta Ahuja, paintings, through Sun 11/27. ... "Tropicalia: A Revolution in Brazilian Culture," late-1960s art by Lygia Clark, Helio Oiticica, and others; architectural models, graphics, and video clips from the period, illustrating the move toward work incorporating international influences; and newly commissioned art and music, through Sun 1/8. Related

screening: Glauber Rocha's 1966 feature *Land in Anguish*, Sun 11/13, 5 PM, \$7. ►Tue 10-8, Wed-Sun 10-5. \$10 suggested admission; \$6 students, seniors; kids 12 and under free. Tuesdays free. 312-280-2660; box office 312-397-4010

Museum of Contemporary Photography Columbia College, 600 S. Michigan. "Stages of Memory," images by six photographers exploring the legacy of the Vietnam war (reviewed this week in Section 1); "Inconvenient Stories," photos and interviews of Vietnam vets by Jeffrey Wolin, through Sat 12/17. Curators Karen Irvine and Rod Slemmons speak Wed 11/16, noon. ►Mon-Fri 10-5, Thu till 8; Sat noon-5. 312-663-5554, 312-344-7104

Museum of Science and Industry 57th & Lake Shore Dr. Mon-Sat 9:30-4, Sun 11-4. \$9, \$7.50 seniors, \$5 kids 3-11. Mondays & Tuesdays free, through 11/22. (U-505 submarine tours, \$5.) 773-684-1414

National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum 1801 S. Indiana. "Purple Hearts," photos by Nina Berman of soldiers wounded in Iraq, through Sat 4/29. Opens Fri 11/11, 3-7 PM, with a book signing by Berman 4-5 PM. ... "Trauma & Metamorphosis II"; "First to Fight," through Tue 1/31. ... "Things We Carried," hands-on exhibit of combat artifacts, through Mon 5/29. ►Tue-Fri 11-6, Sat 10-5. \$10; \$7 students, seniors. 312-326-0270

Newberry Library 60 W. Walton. "Lewis & Clark and the Indian Country," through Sat 1/14. ►Galleries open Mon & Fri-Sat 8:15-5:30, Tue-Thu 8:15-7:30. 312-255-3691

Oriental Institute Museum Univ. of Chicago, 1155 E. 58th. Artifacts from the ancient Near East; "Lost Egypt," photos printed from glass negatives shot 1880-1930. ►Tue-Sat 10-6, Wed till 8:30; Sun noon-6. 773-702-9514

Peace Museum 100 N. Central Park. "Daily Meaning: Life Inside America's Service

Industries," photos and audio work by ten local artists, through Sun 1/29. ►Thu-Fri 1-6, Sat-Sun noon-4. \$5. 773-638-6450

Renaissance Society Univ. of Chicago, 5811 S. Ellis, 4th fl. "All the Pretty Corpses," goth-tinged work by Ellen Cantor, Sterling Ruby, and half a dozen others, "symptomatic of regression," per the exhibit poster, "far from art as positivist social critique, let alone art as responsible for the uplift of humanity," Sun 11/13-Sat 12/24. Opens Sun 11/13, 4-7 PM, with a talk by the artists at 5 PM. ►Tue-Fri 10-5, Sat-Sun noon-5. 773-702-8670

Shedd Aquarium 1200 S. Lake Shore Dr. Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat-Sun 9-6. Aquarium \$8, \$6 seniors and kids 3-11; with oceanarium \$23/\$16. 312-939-2438

Smart Museum of Art Univ. of Chicago, 5550 S. Greenwood. Woodblock prints made by artists of the Kyoto-based Shijo school, through Sun 12/11. ... "Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art," work by Brennan McGaffey, Dan Peterman, Andrea Zittel, and other artists and groups, through Sun 1/15. Exhibit tour, Sun 11/13, 1:30 PM. ►Tue-Fri 10-4, Thu till 8; Sat-Sun 11-5. 773-702-0200

Spertus Museum Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 618 S. Michigan. Renderings and models of the Spertus's future building, plus objects from its collection, through Mon 1/2. ►Fri 10-3, Sun-Wed 10-5, Thu 10-7. \$5; \$3 children, students, seniors; \$10 max per family. Fridays free; Thursdays 5-8 free. 312-322-1747

Swedish American Museum 5211 N. Clark. Karin-Amna Lindberg, textile sculpture, through Sun 11/27. ►Tue-Fri 10-4, Sat-Sun 11-4. \$4; \$3 kids, students, seniors; \$10 max per family. 773-728-8111

Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art 2320 W. Chicago. "Chicago Tapestry," work by Dave Johnson, Lialia Kuchma, Anne McGinn, and others, through Sun 11/13. ►Wed-Sun noon-4. \$5. 773-227-5522



Detail of *Route 55*, graphite and gouache drawing with collage by Shona Macdonald, who discusses her new show Thursday at the Chicago Cultural Center