NEW OTTY.CO

ESTELLES CHICAGO.

Looking at MR. GOODBAR

TOM LYNCH SPENDS THE OTHER 9-TO-5 WITH THE LONELY HEARTS AT ESTELLE'S HAVING HOSTED OPENINGS FOR ARTISTS JUAN CHAVEZ, MIKE GENOVESE, CHRIS SILVA, BLUTT AND REVISE, 32nd&Urban Gallery represents some of the newest and freshest homegrown work the city has to offer. The owners, however, are very conscious about keeping themselves out of the pigeonhole of contempositions.

rary "urban" art. It is their goal to attract as large and diverse a community as possible. One of the things they pride themselves on is having what they describe as completely different "crowds" at all of their shows.

32nd&Urban is special. Since its first show in January 2007, with more than 300 people in attendance, it continues to draw substantial crowds to its (south) South Halsted location. There are a few things about 32nd&Urban that are different from most galleries in Chicago—its location, the night of its openings (Saturday instead of the traditional Friday) and its attitude. Located at 32nd and Halsted in Bridgeport in a building that was once a community barbershop (there are still holes in the floor from the barber chairs) 32nd&Urban gallery is shaping the community around it. An area that was once barren is now filled with potential for change. The gallery's neighbor, the Co-Prosperity Sphere, jokes that Bridgeport is the "community of the future." It's also home to the Zhou B. Art Center and a growing number of artist studios.

The space was imagined by four born-and-raised Chicagoans, two South Siders (Peter Kepha and Lauren Pacheco) and two West Siders (Monika Lee and Pedro Soto Jr.)—all lifelong friends with art and entrepreneurial experience. They have all been involved in the Chicago art community for some years as producers and consumers. Their first event was a welcome-to-the-community-type of affair in December 2006, which included live art and DJs. This event was their opportunity to network with the art community and get their name out there. Having a limited marketing budget, they relied on guerrilla-style marketing, which was successful and got the word out. Many of the "who's who" in the Chicago art community showed up for their first opening in January.

Peter Kepha is the principle curator and main artistic drive behind the gallery. Peter has been an artist all his life but has evolved also into a gifted curator. He started as a graffiti artist and then became a muralist working with CPAG, Chicago Public Art Group, the organization responsible for most of the legal murals in Chicago. Speaking with the founders of 32nd&Urban reminds one that art has potential to influence the larger world around it. They understand that there are areas that are over-saturated with art, but that the South Side needs creative endeavors as well. Asked if there is a particular type or genre of work they are looking for, they all echo, "Good art, we are looking for GOOD art." (Sara McCool)

The next opening at 32nd&Urban, 3201 South Halsted, (312)846-6569, will be artist James "Casper" Jankowiak on January 26.

RIVER WEST

ARC Gallery

832 W. Superior, (312)733-2787. KINA BAGOVSKA, CHU-ALICE CHAN, HORO, COUNCIL FOR JEWISH ELDER-LY. multimedia. Through Feb 9.

SOUTH LOOP

A+D Gallery

619 S. Wabash, (312) 344-8687. VARIOUS ARTISTS, "Curious and Mercurial Systems," multimedia. OPEN-ING RECEPTION: Jan 31, 5pm-8pm. Through Feb 21.

C33 Gallery

33. E. Congress. VARIOUS ARTISTS, "New Prints: Autumn 2007." OPENING RECEPTION: Jan 31, 5pm-8pm. Through Feb 22.

Columbia College Center for the Book and Paper Arts

1104 S. Wabash, (312)344-6630. VARIOUS ARTISTS, "A

Book of Origins: A Survey of American Fine Binding," paper arts. Through Feb 23.

Glass Curtain Gallery

1104 S. Wabash, (312)344-6650. GOYA LOPES, "The African Disapora in Brazil," textiles. OPENING RECEP-TION: Jan 30, 5pm-7pm. Opens Jan 30. Through Feb 29.

STREETERVILLE

The Arts Club of Chicago

201 E. Ontario, (312)787-3997. JOHN BALDESSARI, "Beethoven's Trumpet: In One Ear and Out the Same Ear," interactive sculpture. Through Feb 18.

SUBURBAN

Arts Center at College of DuPage

425 Fawell, Glen Ellyn, (630)942-4000. INDUSTRY OF THE ORDINARY/ADAM BROOKS AND MATTHEW WIL-SON, "Celebrity and the Peculiar," multimedia. OPEN-ING RECEPTION: Jan 24, 6pm-9pm. Through Mar 1. Alogon Gallery

1049 N. Paulina, (815)540-6019. VARIOUS ARTISTS, "Body Collective: Selected videos from the collection of Jefferson Godard." OPENING RECEPTION: Jan 26, 7pm-10pm. ADDITIONAL SCREENINGS: Jan 27, Feb 3, Feb 10, 5pm-8pm. Through Feb 10.

Architrouve

1433 W. Chicago, (312)563-0977. VARIOUS ARTISTS, "Fine Art Rescue: Salon Exhibition," multimedia. Through Feb 14.

Lisa Boyle Gallery

1821 W. Hubbard, (773)655-5475. TIFFANY CALVERT, MAUREEN KEAVENY, painting. Through Feb 16.

Shane Campbell)

1431 W. Chicago, (312)226-2223. > IOHN OPERA, AMIR ZAKI, photography. Chicago's John Opera and L.A.'s Amir Zaki join forces in a compelling show. The landscape as altered by perspective is at the center of each artist's work. Opera's camera is pointed toward the ethereal calm of Midwestern lakes and forests, translated into an array of literal and abstract terms. Formal elements of shape and texture are enhanced to present the spiritual/intellectual instances of nature, resulting in the blurring of the line separating the animate and the inanimate. Zaki, on the other hand, juxtaposes the two. He snatches wildlife from its habitat and plops it down on a manicured lawn. Photos are reminiscent of Hollywood head shots where nature is in the spotlight, placed against a neutral background, bathed in balanced light. Compositions are chock-full of severed nbs and distorted trees manipulated and placed within the urban sprawl of sidewalks, front yards and orange traffic cones. There is an attempt, however failed, at reuniting the two worlds. One photograph depicts a fragment of a trunk physically hinged to its detached foundation and another shows such detritus gathered at the roots of one living tree in hopes of reconvening. (Karissa Lang) Through Feb 9.

65GRAND

1378 W. Grand, (312)719-4325. PAMELA IORDEN. JASMINE JUSTICE, WES SHERMAN, WENDY WHITE, "Some Abstraction Occurs," painting. 65Grand's cozy space serves up work by four divergent painters: Pamela Jordan, Jasmine Justice, Wes Sherman and Wendy White. Each of their practices occurs within the ever-widening field of contemporary abstract painting. The show highlights the plurality of recent approaches to painting without pictures. While each of the artists has hir or her own charms, Jasmine Justice's hot paintings are the most inventive in the room. Ms. Justice's spontaneous strokes of prefab color form textile-like patterns on the surface only to be changed through the addition of other eccentric shapes. The effect is quirky and fresh, with a hint of mischievousness. (Dan Gunn) Through Feb 9.

Western Exhibitions

1821 W. Hubbard, (312)307-4685. AARON VAN DYKE, "C-Side: Deluxe edition!" Through Feb 16.

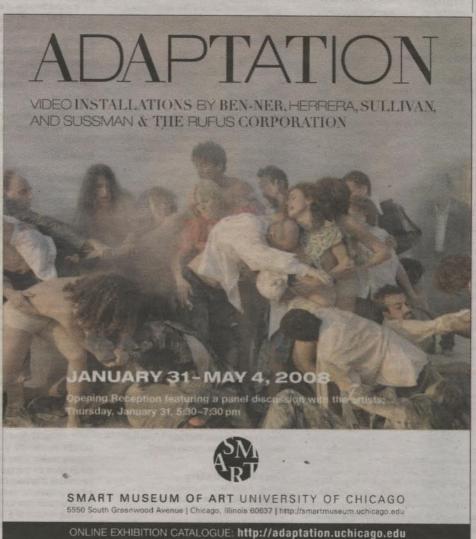
WEST LOOP

Bodybuilder & Sportsman

119 N. Peoria, (773)235-7297. PORTIA HEIN, painting. Through Feb 23.

Donald Young

933 W. Washington, (312)455-0100. MARK WALLINGER, "The Human Figure in Motion," multimedia. The show commences with "The Human Figure in Space," a gridded and mirrored lab-exploring image and (appropriately enough) one's own human figure in motion. Yet, the human figure moves into an altogether different and inglorious space in the work that follows. "Landscape with Fall of Icarus" is composed of five video monitors displaying what seems like various scenes pilfered from the libraries of "America's Funniest Home Videos." Mud is splattered, parachutes collapse, all in a jarringly slow-frame rate that destroys the viewer's persistent vision of motion, confounding whether to see the work as either still image or video. However intentional, it all



80