

Sight Scene: Local Art Fall Season Arrives, Finally



E. Brady Robinson's "Shift" at the Gallery at Flashpoint

SOME OBSERVERS SAY that the nation's capital is on its way to becoming the sort of city where art sells all year, not just during the official art season, i.e., fall and spring. Some dealers swear they already do sell art all year round, while others — good dealers at that — will testify that they won't see four people in the store throughout all of August. Of course, the art market is showing stress from the subprime market implosion, and that's bound to affect local dealers, so it's hard to say how best to track these kinds of assessments.

For better or worse, the city does operate on the seasonal calendar. And for better — much better — the art season starts tonight.

Over this weekend and next, galleries will be opening up their fall exhibitions. Most of these shows will be solo exhibits, but one new place in the District is starting with a group show: **Carroll Square Gallery**, located at [975 F St. NW](#), is opening "**Botanica**" tomorrow, a show featuring works by **Mary Early**, **Dean Kessmann**, **Jeff Spaulding**, and **William Willis**, among others. The show is sponsored by a collaboration between building developers **Akridge** and **Seaton & Benkowski Partners**, and **Hemphill Fine Arts**. If nothing else, the show boosts and impressive list of names.

Civilian Art Projects is displaying the blissed-out photography of **Noelle Tan**, who pictures the sublime through whited-out photographs of the everyday. Tan hasn't reached the level of overexposure evident in her photographs, but she's certainly seen her share of shows in the city, including a split bill with **Kate Hardy** at [Project 4 Gallery](#) in winter 2006. The show is being sponsored by a [Creative Capital](#) grant. Also on display are paintings by [Erick Jackson](#), who also plays in [The Apes](#). Jackson's "**Unsung Heroes of the Dynamic Field 1 (2006)**" is at right.

E. Brady Robinson was chosen by **Chan Chao** for a single-artist show at the [Gallery at Flashpoint](#). In "**Shift**," pictured at top, Robinson documents motion and structures with photographs from urban environments that will look familiar to fans of [Jörg Sasse](#). But Robinson isn't constructing geometric patterns using digital alteration (like Sasse); rather, she's exploring the democratic nature of photography, using cheaper, mobile, and telephonic equipment to capture split-second moments in the social world that were previously much harder to depict. *Images courtesy Flashpoint and Civilian Arts*

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