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The Boston Blobe

Subjective Reality: Edward del Rosario, Hope Gangloff, Naoe Suziki

At: Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art 14 Newbury Street, Boston, MA Through March 3, 2007



Hope Gangloff, "Bitners Brookyn BBQ", 2006 at Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art.

SURREAL AND FLUMMOXING

Naoe Suzuki, Edward del Rosario, and [Hope Gangloff], whose work makes up "Subjective Reality" at Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art, are part of a trend that blends the precision and detail of illustration with surreal, opaque, and flummoxing content. I can take artists like this one at a time, engaging with a series of odd images, finding resonance in a particular vocabulary. With more than one, though, it's a vexing exercise, like leaping from one person's dream life to another.

All three are wonderful technicians. Suzuki draws babies often oddly hooked up by tubes to plants, with medical instruments. They're faultlessly rendered, creepily mixing the babies' innocence with a clinical chill. Del Rosario makes bright, odd watercolors of circus scenes, such as "Untitled (matador with bullgirl)," in which a bullfighter in a pinstripe suit takes on a bull-headed child.

Gangloff's ink drawings are the most refreshingly straightforward. She draws portraits with a ballpoint pen, and it's her stylistic robotics, such as layering images over intricate patterns, that push her works in the surreal, rather than her content.