



CULTURE MONSTER

ALL ARTS, ALL THE TIME

Art Review: David Ellis and Kris Kuksi at Mark Moore Gallery

By Holly Myers

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In “Go West,” the second installment in a two-part, bi-coastal exchange, New York gallerist Joshua Liner brings two of his artists to **Mark Moore Gallery**. (“Go East,” featuring four of Mark Moore’s artists, was mounted at Liner’s gallery in April.)

David Ellis, who is based in Woodstock, New York, makes large, pleasantly spirited paintings characterized by thick, curling ribbons of black striated with silver highlights. A wall-mounted sculpture called “Mubarak,” made from a three and a half foot stack of record covers that’s been slathered with enamel to form a single color-coded block, gels nicely with the musical nature of the paintings, though a kinetic installation involving a trash can and several bags of garbage—the items in the can are rigged to clink and clank together, performing a soundtrack composed by Roberto Lange—takes the association a little far.

More surprising are three impressively intricate assemblage sculptures by Kansas-based artist **Kris Kuksi**. A bronze sculpture depicting a cathedral set on the wheels of a tank points to themes of power, violence, and ornament, while two wall-mounted works fashion just about every kind of miniature object you could imagine—toy soldiers, model parts, animals, religious figurines, moldings and wood trim—into gothic Baroque dioramas that could hold one’s visual curiosity for days.

—Holly Myers

Mark Moore Gallery, 5790 Washington Blvd., Culver City, (310) 453-3031, through August 25. Closed Sunday and Monday. www.markmooregallery.com

Source:

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/arts/culture/la-et-ca-art-review-david-ellis-and-kris-kuksi-at-mark-moore-gallery-20120731,0,5353028.story>