



EAST BAY EXPRESS

OAKLAND, BERKELEY, AND EAST BAY NEWS, EVENTS, RESTAURANTS, MUSIC, & ARTS



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Rhythmic Sequences

Dec. 29-Jan. 8 2011

Creationists two centuries ago explained away fossils as sacred fakes - simulacra of non-existent creatures - divinely created 6,000 years earlier to test the faith of unborn paleontologists. Time is illusively embedded as well in the artworks of **Sanjay Vora** and **Ani Kasten**, combinations of abstract form and archaic-looking surfaces seemingly bleached by time and weather. Vora's highly impasted acrylic/oil paintings, striped, furrowed, and perforated, reveal, under the right light, figures and landscapes taken from the artist's family snapshots ("21," "Rasgarba," "In Her Element"). These "metaphysical veil[s] ... residue[s] left by repeated acts of longing," with their implied textile calligraphies, depict the conversion of fleeting reality into permanent symbol. Kasten's ceramic sculptures seem similarly ancient, with their powerful urn and vessel shapes redolent of, say, Egypt, Mexico, and China ("Cairn," "White Boat," "Bottle Still Life"). Rhythmic Sequences (also featuring jewelry by Elisa Bongfeldt) runs through January 8 at Vessel Gallery (471 25th St., Oakland). 510-893-8800 or Vessel-Gallery.com

— DeWitt Cheng

Vessel Gallery
471 25th St.

Oakland-Downtown

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Art Galleries, Staff Pick