

# Time Out

## Chicago

APRIL 19-25, 2007 ISSUE NO. 112 \$2.50 TIMEOUTCHICAGO.COM

# *Cheap!*



*Our annual  
guide to the city's  
best bargains, p.17*

**FOR YOUR ECO-TAINMENT**

Smart tips for Earth-friendly  
eats, shopping and more, p.33

Time Out Chicago / Issue 112 : Apr 19–25, 2007

## Cheap Issue

### The deal of the art

Original art isn't cheap...or is it? Head to local bars, cafés and shops to dress up your walls without going broke.

By Katie Richardson

A work of art can liven up any dull space, but not all of us can shop at Artropolis, next week's art blowout at the Merchandise Mart. Next time you paint the town, keep an eye out for affordable works by up-and-coming artists like these.



Rachel Borchers's work—like this 2007 oil, *Trevor Never*—is available at Kristoffer's Café for \$300.

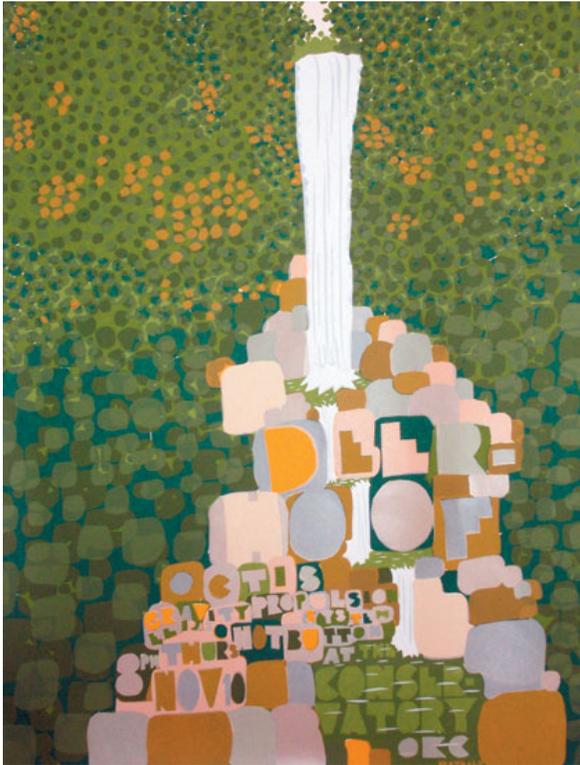
## \$300

and under

Rachel Borchers's 9-by-14.5-foot paintings can go for as much as \$4,000, but savvy art shoppers can find her 8-by-11-inch oil paintings for \$300 at **Kristoffer's Café and Bakery** (1733 S Halsted St). A 2001 graduate of the School of the Art Institute, Borchers paints brightly colored landscapes with whimsical characters in natural environments. Kristoffer's shows her work until May (café owner Carlos Chavarria swaps pieces out every 30 days).

Matt Nichols's mixed-media paintings provide a break from biscuits and gravy at **Wishbone** (3300 N Lincoln Ave). Nichols's pieces are strongly inspired by painters like Edward Hopper and based on different urban landscapes. His Chicago cityscapes, which are subtly abstract with multiple cool and warm colors, can be purchased in 12-by-12-inch or 11-by-14-inch pieces, each going for around \$200.

The **Green Eye Lounge** (2403 W Homer St) is currently showing Dena Cavazos's paintings, which examine enlarged versions of tiny architectural elements, like keyholes and window panes. The 12-by-24-inch works sell for around \$275.



Silkscreen poster for Deerhoof by Mat Daly, \$200.

**\$150**

and under

At **No Friction Café** (2023 N California Ave), owner Hilda Rosado tries to keep things local: “I like seeing what the artists right down the street have to offer,” she says. Licha DeLaPeña’s abstract color splashes add some extra pizzazz to the tidy traditional-French-café decor.

Similarly, **Lula Café** (2537 N Kedzie Ave) has been inviting local artists to work its walls since 1999. The Logan Square spot is featuring a series of spring-inspired screen prints by six local artists: Dan MacAdam, Mat Daly, Nick Butcher, Nadine Nakanishi, Alana Bailey and Jordan Crane. Lula’s volunteer cocurators (and former employees) Marianne Fairbanks and Andres Nilsen select artists to feature on the restaurant’s pale-pink and sea foam–green walls. Fairbanks and Nilsen often check out student exhibits for up-and-coming talent to find their artists.

At Bucktown standby **Lemmings** (1850 N Damen Ave), artist Brian David Schultz’s color and black-and-white photos feature images from around the world, and most of the pieces are for sale for \$150 until the end of this month. One of our favorites, *Musician, Cuzco, Peru*, depicts an armless Peruvian man playing a wooden wind instrument.



Print of Karate by Byron Flitsch, \$50.

**\$50**

and under

If you're really strapped for cash, move beyond the restaurant and bar scene. At **Foursided** frame shop (5061 N Clark St), Kelly Reynolds specializes in collages using cut-paper characters. Customized prints cost as little as \$50. At [fivefoldink.com](http://fivefoldink.com), Byron Flitsch creates urban-inspired posters (like the \$50, 8-by-10-inch print of *Karate*), postcards and prints. At only \$2.50 apiece, the postcards make easily framed pieces of dynamic art.

Or look for wearable art: David Johnson makes tapestries that start at \$500, but he applies the same aesthetic to his fabric jewelry. He weaves beads and bright cloth into fetching pieces that complement a black dress or a plain white tee. Find them at [urbanwild.net](http://urbanwild.net) for \$50.