

## Arts & Galleries

# ART COMMENTARY

With Marion Wolberg Weiss

### "THE BEAT GOES ON" AT GONE LOCAL GALLERY

While Amagansett's newest art venue, "Gone Local Gallery," is not directly owed by an artist, there's a close connection: the family of artist Frank Bologna is running the space and plans on showing Mr. Bologna's work in addition to other artists who live in the area. That's not to suggest that the exhibiting artists possess only a local reputation.

For example, the current show features Athos Zacharias who has displayed his work here and abroad over many decades; he is one of the few established "old timers" who remains extremely active. Zacharias' present work consists primarily of a series of abstract images, each one presented on a separate small block. Their arrangement becomes a grid-like pattern or even a cinematic "montage."

If we are to look at the series as a montage, we can "read" each image as part of a puzzle, each piece contributing to an overall effect. Or we can appreciate

each piece as an entity within itself. In so doing, we notice that some images are more abstract than others. We find ourselves searching for distinguishable objects with which we can identify. There's a spontaneous and painterly approach to Zacharias' work, not only consistent with abstraction but also unique to this particular artist.

The three other exhibiting artists, while also doing abstractions, mostly show more restraint in their technique. The possible exception is Josh Dayton, whose flair for spontaneity is well served by his monoprints. Mr. Dayton's use of an intriguing process, where faint markings from a previous image are employed again in a new work, also accounts for variations on a theme. Such themes suggest to this critic the flow of the universe, cosmic cur-



Work by Josh Dayton

Photo by M.W. Weiss

rents in flux, the circular nature of life.

Dennis Lawrence's abstractions possess both impressionistic and geometric shapes, perhaps also signifying the universe. His circles, especially, and other special configurations, recreate a fascinating journey as we imagine traveling through space.

Sculpture by Steve Loschen also suggests a theme based on circles and its connection with the universe. There's one piece that looks like a basketball hoop, but we see the cosmos instead. Consider "Blue Mobile" as well, a visual variation on the hoop, a circle contained within an unusual, multisided form.

*"The Beat Goes On" will be on view until August 25, 2006. The Gone Local Gallery is at 199 Main Street, Amagansett.*