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KC artists, from coast to coast

By ALICE THORSON

Kansas City artists are showing across the country this season, from New York to L.A.

Artist and art consultant Ashley McLean Emenegger, curator of the recent "I-Dentity" video exhibition at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, invited UMKC faculty members Ricky Allman and **Barry Anderson** to be part of a group show, "KC in LA" at the Milo Gallery in Los Angeles. The exhibit features eight artists, including Kansas Citians Anne Pearce, **Archie Scott Gobber** and David Ford. The three of them and Anderson traveled to L.A. for the April 26 opening. "The opening was great," said Anderson. "There was a huge crowd."

Ford, who opened a solo show, "White Like Me," at Jack the Pelican Presents in New York on April 25, is enjoying a presence on both coasts this season. "It was a really nice buzz Friday in New York and Saturday in L.A.," Ford said. "It was an exciting red eye for me." Both the Milo group show and Ford's solo exhibit in New York were highlighted in the online journal Flavorpill. They also got a bounce from a review of the Whitney Biennial in this month's *Art in America* magazine.

The author, Gregory Volk, who has visited Kansas City to serve on the Charlotte Street Foundation awards panel for the last two years, took issue with the exhibit's neglect of regional scenes: "Recent trips that I've taken to Kansas City and Cleveland introduced me to quite a number of intriguing artists who could easily be included here," Volk asserted. "... the exhibition purports to be about where American art is now, but it appears that artists who have set up shop in the heartland need not apply."

Peregrine Honig's "Fashism" exhibit of new drawings, which opened April 12 at Dwight Hackett Projects in Santa Fe, N.M., also grabbed some ink, landing a rave review from the *Santa Fe Reporter's* Zane Fischer, who says "these new efforts from Honig are a significant and evolutionary departure."

Ke-Sook Lee added to her recent East Coast showings with a new exhibit, "Threads of Memory/An Installation," at the Lawrence Gallery at Rosemont College in Rosemont, Pa. It opened March 6 in conjunction with that weekend's Philadelphia International Fiber Symposium (March 6-8) and the monthlong Contemporary Korean Fiber Exhibition at Philadelphia's University of the Arts.

New work by Bev Gegen is on view through May 24 in a one-person exhibit, "Abstract Expressions," at the Moberg Gallery in Des Moines, Iowa. The exhibit is her second solo showing at Moberg and was inspired, Gegen says, by "states of mind, peace, quiet, joy, solitude, etc., as well as specific places I have known."

Archie Scott Gobber, who regularly exhibits at Kansas City's Dolphin Gallery, is also expanding his geographic reach. On the heels of the Milo show, "Archie Scott Gobber: In Loving Memory of You" opened May 10 at the **Marty Walker Gallery** in Dallas. The gallery describes the work as "sharp and aggressive."

"Gobber's work is both a satirically harrowing and hysterical take on how we have ceased to be a nation of citizens but rather an assembled mass of easily manipulated consumers," states the press release.