

# HOUSTON★CHRONICLE



## Artist captures a lonely beauty

By DOUGLAS BRITT Copyright 2010 Houston Chronicle

Feb. 10, 2010, 5:46PM



Introduced to Houston during the 2008 ArtHouston, Denton painter Sarah Williams returns with *Population 4,769*, a body of works focusing on her rural Midwestern roots. Snow-covered roads, vacant truck washes and deserted gas stations provide the settings for her landscapes.

“While I render my subject in a representational manner I like to fracture the form and accentuate the light through brushwork,” she writes. “I believe this approach makes these settings visually captivating and eerily mysterious at the same time.”

While that sense of mystery mostly eludes her daytime paintings, which are lovely but often merely picturesque, time after time Williams achieves the haunting presence she's after in her nocturnal scenes. Her work remains on view through Saturday at McMurtrey Gallery, 3508 Lake; 713-523-8238 or [www.mcmurtreygallery.com](http://www.mcmurtreygallery.com).