

THIS WEEK IN MUMBAI WITH AVNI DOSHI

Table on Turtles

by Avni Doshi

Everything is real: After Life ...

Gallery Maskara

Warehouse on 3rd Pasta (b/w
Dena Bank ATM and Sanghvi
Exports) 6/7, 3rd Pasta Lane,
Colaba, Mumbai, India

February 10, 2010 - March 7, 2010



A group show at Gallery Maskara called "Everything is Real: After Life..." loosely ties together the works of five artists from different countries. Overall, it manages to generate potent questions through unexpected means, as some of the works offer food for thought. Ruben Bellinkx explores the conundrum of human beings in their environments. By harnessing a table on the backs of four turtles (a task which was carefully and humanely accomplished), Bellinkx's videos and photographs question human interactions and interventions into the world, which often end up being absurd and counterproductive. The images are appealingly poignant, and in some ways tragic, as the turtles push and pull in different directions, eventually moving around in circles.



Neil Hamon, a British artist, reconstructs images from crime scenes in early 20th century America. The pictures are both forensic and poetic in their compositions. The photographs are taken in an artist's studio where paintings stand on easels and hang on walls. Entitled *Suicide Self-Portraits*, the hanging man in a hanging image is at once a disturbing representation and a comic pun.

Shine Shivan, who recently had his first solo show at Gallery Maskara, offered up a work called *Second Hand Pepe II*. Using pre-Victorian garments as a shell for the singular spinal column hanging in the center, the piece is like a floating piñata reclaiming a moment of blurred gender lines.

-- Avni Doshi

(Images: from top to bottom, Ruben Bellinkx, *The Table Turning*; Shine Shivan *Second*