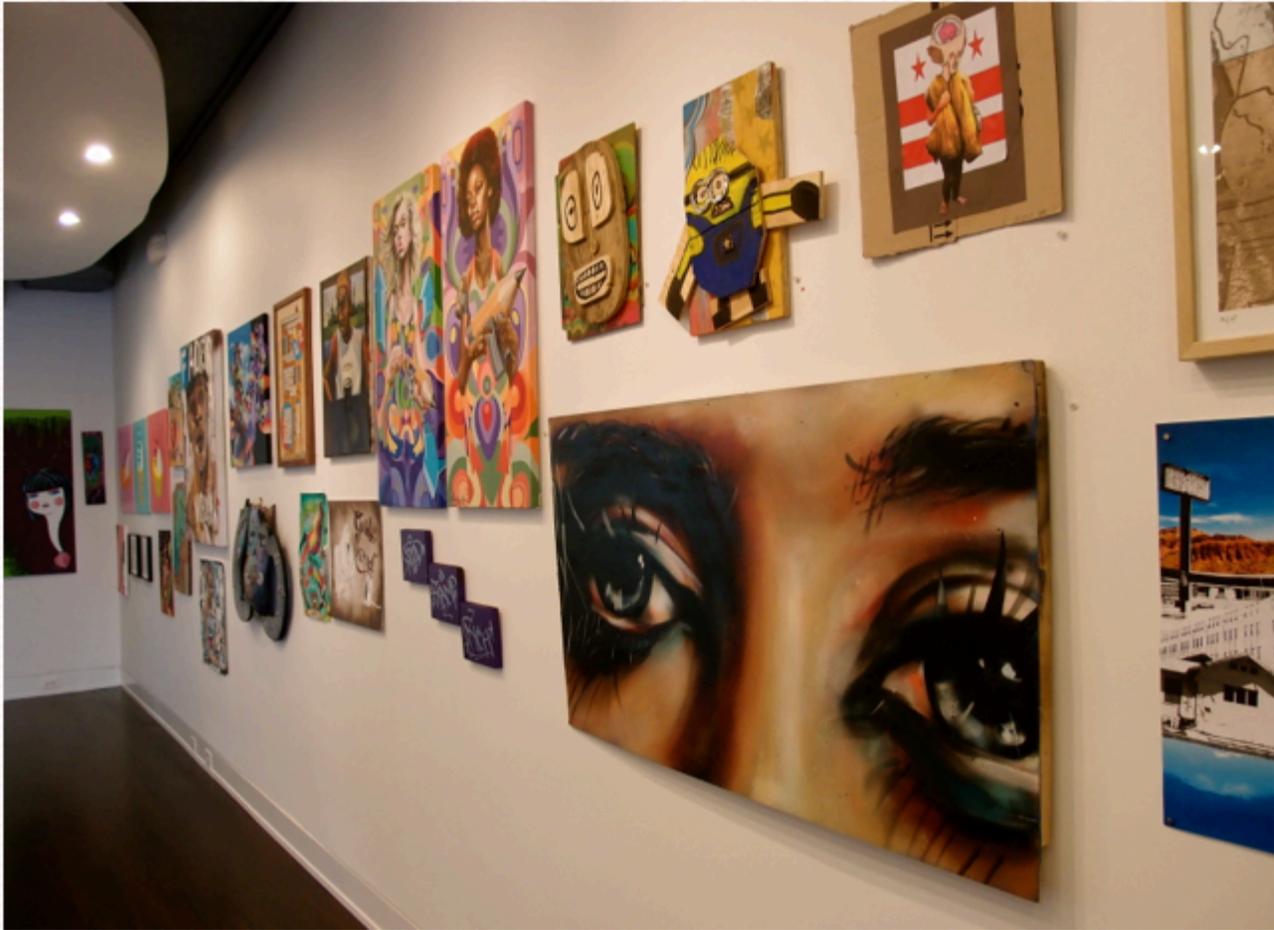


Art @ Work



PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH
WORDS BY ALEXANDRA WURLITZER
PHOTOS BY ALEXANDRA WURLITZER

There's always a lot going on with graffiti artwork and even more going on within the collection at *Art @ Work* at the **Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery**. *Art @ Work* is a group exhibition created in partnership w/ **Albus Cavus** highlighting the work of 32 artists. The exhibit brings home not memories of our economic set-up but realities of the current situation. It presents itself as a stable arrangement during sluggish-recovery times and tells the tale of unemployment around DC behind a lot of awesome colors, textures, and written words. The exhibit showcases doing graffiti with a conscience + message into the heart of unemployment and how it has the ability to engage and connect community members.

The perfect words to describe our economy at the moment are tough to find. But, when it comes to canvas, photos, sculpture, and paint, it's a lot easier to convey the current message. Regardless of everyday stressors, art is a way for us to work, create, and unite together within the community. As Brooke Seidemann, (Gallery Director) described the opening reception as a mix of enthusiastic, "international," and "generational," adults and children even, an exhibit + gallery with the intention of a strong and connected community was more than evident. Certainly, in the end, creativity always spawns new growth! And with all of this activity, definitely yes.

So, with local unemployment rates at 10.6% (Nov 2011, LAUS), *Art @ Work* broadcasts messages to our community and explores issues in the form of works from the street titled:

Help Wanted

Now Hiring

Stick it!

The Blues

Unhappy Channel

HOMELESS

No Money No Love

Sunny Day

Over Qualified

Food Stamp Rich

Moreover, layer by layer, the collaboration includes creating an on-site mural that will be installed within a community location, whether a school, outdoor space, or other public community center as part of Albus Cavus' Open Walls Project. For more information on the remaining two mural workshops and to contribute to the interactive exhibit, please visit [here](#). *Art @ Work* is running for visitors until February 18, 2012.

The Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery

1632 U St., NW

(photo below by Brooke Seidelmann)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

In love with wandering around DC, especially my Logan Circle corner and on the side, I work very hard doing bits and pieces of all sorts of things! To me, everything looks good and I can't get enough of documenting with photos. I hate unloading the dishwasher; I will never turn down bubble tea.