

# THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

**"MAX: 03" by Jon W. Sparks (excerpt) / *The Commercial Appeal*, July 20, 2003**

Kim Beck, director of the graduate studies program at Memphis College of Art, has a series of what at first resembles five Doric columns made of partially unrolled paper. The rolls are actually milk-carton paper, and the still rolled-up tops soon begin to suggest rollup garage doors the kind you find at thousands of commercial storage facilities sprouting all over.

The classical architectural spin on this most common of functional buildings is a witty take. Beck then projected pictures of storage facilities and cut them out from the paper rolls or used a straight-edge to render exactly in graphite the characterless structures, sometimes on the paper, sometimes going off onto the wall.

"I started getting interested when, coming into the Memphis airport, I saw a sign saying it was the distribution center of America," Beck said. "There are so many storage facilities created for individuals and corporations of things not ready. It speaks to how much stuff we accumulate and have to put in these weird nonspaces that all the same: basic and cheap as possible."