

[selection]

Mark Moore's summer group show, "Ultrasonic International," features 10 young artists from Japan, Korea, Sweden, England and the U.S. It's a spirited assembly.

Formal vigor compensates for much of the work feeling conceptually warmed over: Craig Fisher's car stitched of upholstery fabric resembles a third-generation Claes Oldenburg soft sculpture; Emily Counts' gouache paintings of female explorers bear the imprint of Marnie Weber and an overdetermined awareness of bad-girl irreverence and kitsch.

To some extent, industriousness makes up for ingenuity. Kimberley Hart's flock of felt birds standing on little rugs, connected beak- to-beak by strands of cheap plastic name-bracelet beads, is a craft project gone overboard, but with a bit of sentimental charm. Ben Weiner paints well enough to make an image of pearls enmeshed in hair gel look garishly intriguing.

Kim Rugg's works are the most austere in the show, but also the most provocative. In each of four collages, she meticulously rearranges the text and images of a newspaper's front page. She places the letters of headlines and all articles in alphabetical order and chops the photographs into mosaic bits reconfigured as graduated planes.

One page dates from Sept. 12, 2001, another announces (according to the title) the invasion of Iraq. But in both, reports of chaos and violence have been transformed into fields of logic, order, control. These are poignant operations of repair, acts of deconstruction in the name of harmony, however superficial.

Pop culture, vernacular imagery and graphic immediacy braid together with adolescent desperation in Jonas Ohlsson's mixed-media drawings and with sophisticated refinement and a share of humor in Kenichi Yokono's carved woodblocks. Jun Ho Kwon's two engaging assemblages merge private poetry with the collective memory invested in worn, found objects. Abstracted, self-consciously hip maritime paintings by Andrea Hornick and a quirky, gloppy canvas by Ali Smith round out the show.

Mark Moore, Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica, (310) 453-3031, through Aug. 19. Closed Sun. and Mon. www.markmooregallery.com