

# Los Angeles Times | ENTERTAINMENT

LOCAL U.S. WORLD BUSINESS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT HEALTH LIVING TRAVEL OPINION MORE  Weekly Ad

MOVIES TELEVISION MUSIC CELEBRITY ARTS & CULTURE COMPANY TOWN CALENDAR THE ENVELOPE

**IN THE COULDS:** ELAINE MELLENCAMP | ENDURING MOVIE CHARACTERS | JUSTIN BIEBER! OMG! | 2010 IN REVIEW

 

**BEST PICTURE**  
**BEST DIRECTOR**  
**BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY**  
**BEST ACTRESS**  
**BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR**

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



**SECRETARIAT**

CLICK HERE FOR AN IN-DEPTH LOOK





## Culture Monster

ALL THE ARTS, ALL THE TIME

[« Previous](#) | [Culture Monster Home](#) | [Next »](#)

### Art review: Eamon O'Kane at See Line Gallery

March 19, 2010 | 7:00 am

In an eclectic installation at [See Line Gallery](#), Eamon O'Kane takes on the controversial story of Le Corbusier's admiration and eventual vandalism of fellow architect Eileen Gray's villa, E-1027, in the south of France.

As a woman and a successful designer of modern furniture, Gray was a rarity in the 1920s, and E-1027, completed in 1929, marked her transition from furniture – a more suitably "feminine" profession – to the male-dominated field of architecture. By redrawing and intermingling images of her work and Le Corbusier's, O'Kane not only evokes their strange, intertwined history but



momentarily levels the difference in their reputations. Le Corbusier is nearly a household name; Gray is far less well-known, but their furniture designs in particular are remarkably similar.

By all accounts, Le Corbusier, who was about 10 years Gray's junior, thought very highly of her designs, especially the integrated layout and furnishings of E-1027. He visited on numerous occasions and eventually bought an adjacent piece of land on which he built an uncharacteristically rustic cabin. But after Gray moved away in the 1930s, Le Corbusier moved in against her wishes and painted a series of eight murals on the home's interior walls, an act Gray's biographer has described as a "rape."

Yet for all the story's scandal, O'Kane's response is markedly understated. He has lined the gallery walls with small drawings and paintings of both buildings and their furnishings, as if quietly cataloging evidence. Drawn from photographs found in books or on the Internet, a few images depict the offending murals, but most are isolated objects on small white or coffee-stained pieces of paper stuck casually to the wall.

Stay connected:

 RSS  twitter  facebook

advertisement

WINNER

# BEST PICTURE

LOS ANGELES FILM CRITICS ASSOC.  
NEW YORK FILM CRITICS CIRCLE  
CHICAGO FILM CRITICS ASSOC.  
WASHINGTON DC AREA FILM CRITICS ASSOC.  
SAN FRANCISCO FILM CRITICS CIRCLE

CLICK HERE TO VISIT SITE

the social network



**CULTURE WATCH:**  
What's new in music, DVDs and books

### About the Reporters

- Mike Boehm**
- Jori Finkel**
- Lisa Fung**
- Christopher Hawthorne**
- Reed Johnson**
- Christopher Knight**
- Charles McNulty**
- David Ng**
- Kelly Scott**
- Sherry Stern**
- Mark Swed**

### Recent News

Jazz saxophonist Jason Robinson finds his



This nonchalant presentation is reminiscent of sketches in an artist's or architect's studio – in some cases, O'Kane has reinterpreted actual plans – but most of the images are clearly intended as re-creations of photographs, not works in progress. Yet with their hand-drawn quality and coffee stains, they look not authoritative but vulnerable. They might be the products of an especially driven hobbyist who collects and redraws such images in order to make them his own.

This amateur tone extends to the wood-and-paper partitions the artist has erected around the gallery. Based on designs by both Le Corbusier and Gray, the panels are

also reminiscent of Mondrian's grids. Painted black, the wooden armatures are filled in with squares and rectangles of white and colored paper. Unlike the sketches, they re-create modern designs in three dimensions, but they are also slightly pathetic: some of the crossbars sag, and the colored paper looks flimsy.

To the artist's credit, one needn't know about the Corbusier-Gray intrigue to understand how this handmade, human aspect belies the typical presentation of modernist design as cool, rational and machine-made. And as if to reinforce the point, the gallery, located in the Pacific Design Center, is surrounded by exactly such displays of actual furnishings.

In O'Kane's hands modernism becomes inflected with messy and inchoate desires that are only amplified by familiarity with his source material. His loose, casual re-creations disturb the fantasy of mastery associated with modern design, much in the way Eileen Gray's success as a woman architect must have done for Le Corbusier.

– Sharon Mizota

**See Line Gallery**, 8687 Melrose Ave., Suite B274, West Hollywood, (917) 604-3114, through April 8. Closed Saturdays and Sundays. [www.seelinegallery.com](http://www.seelinegallery.com)

Images: *Le Cabanon, 2010* and *E-1027, 2010*. Courtesy of See Line Gallery.

@ Twitter: [@culturemonster](https://twitter.com/culturemonster)  
Facebook: [culturemonster](https://www.facebook.com/culturemonster)

More in: [Art](#), [Art review](#), [Arts](#), [Galleries](#), [Sharon Mizota](#), [Westside](#)

Read Later Comments (0) ShareThis 6 retweet

### The Biggest Artists Index

Find Any Information About Any Artist. Join Largest Art Archive!  
[www.MutualArt.com/Index](http://www.MutualArt.com/Index)

### West Hollywood Gallery

Stunning contemporary art. All profits donated to Hammer Museum.  
[www.laarthouse.net](http://www.laarthouse.net)

ADS BY GOOGLE

influences in Los Angeles | [December 31, 2010, 4:04 pm](#) »

A final look back at the arts in 2010 (with top-10 lists) | [December 31, 2010, 8:00 am](#) »

Theater review: 'Bullshot Crummond and the Invisible Bride of Death' at Whitmore-Lindley Theatre Center | [December 30, 2010, 3:38 pm](#) »

Does NFL stadium proposal reveal a dysfunctional planning culture in L.A.? | [December 30, 2010, 2:36 pm](#) »

'Jerry Springer: The Opera' coming to Southern California | [December 30, 2010, 2:13 pm](#) »

## Recent Comments

**RE:** Anonymous street artist puts up mural condemning MOCA director [Updated] | comment by otis

**RE:** Does NFL stadium proposal reveal a dysfunctional planning culture in L.A.? | comment by Zizibug

**RE:** Stephen Sondheim calls his 'West Side Story' lyrics 'embarrassing' | comment by Timothy T.

**RE:** Stephen Sondheim calls his 'West Side Story' lyrics 'embarrassing' | comment by Michael Freed

**RE:** Doug Harvey's run--and an era in arts criticism--ends at the L.A. Weekly | comment by Former Freelancer

**RE:** Theater review: 'Stuffed and Unstrung' at the Irvine Barclay Theatre [Updated] | comment by barron



@culturemonster/staff



**sherrystern** A memorable evening with the amazing Kristin Chenoweth at Disney Hall. What a way to welcome the new year.  
about 1 hour ago · reply



**CharlesMcNulty** Kristin Chenoweth, midnight, Disney Hall--perfect combination. A natural born diva with a gift for comic gab.  
10 hours ago · reply



**sherrystern** Celebrating a New Year and 20th anniversary of getting engaged. Happy 2011 to everyone in Twitterville.  
18 hours ago · reply



**CharlesMcNulty** Scariest film performance this year. Not Natalie Portman--Jacki Weaver in Animal

advertisement

Verify your Comment

Previewing your Comment

Posted by: |

This is only a preview. Your comment has not yet been posted.

Post Edit

Your comment could not be posted. Error type: Your comment has been saved. Comments are moderated and will not appear until approved by the author. Post another comment

The letters and numbers you entered did not match the image. Please try again.

As a final step before posting your comment, enter the letters and numbers you see in the image below. This prevents automated programs from posting comments.

Having trouble reading this image? View an alternate.

Continue

### Post a comment

If you are under 13 years of age you may read this message board, but you may not participate. Here are the full legal terms you agree to by using this comment form.

Comments are moderated, and will not appear until they've been approved.

If you have a TypeKey or TypePad account, please Sign In

Name:

E-mail Address:

URL:

Remember personal info?

Comments:

Preview Post

### Comments (0)

## Categories

ahmanson theatre album review american idol andrew lloyd webber ann philbin antonio villaraigosa architecture architecture review art art center college of design art review art theft arts arts economy arts education asian art autry national center awards ballet barack obama barnes berkeley repertory theater blogs books bowers museum broad stage broadway business cabaret calarts california african american museum celebrities cerritos charles mcnulty charlotte stouidt chris barton chris pasles christie's christopher hawthorne christopher knight christopher smith cirque du soleil classical music colburn school comedy criticism critics choice culture watch culver city galleries current affairs dance dance review daryl h. miller david c. nichols david mermelstein david ng david pagel deaccessioning deborah vankin debra levine disney concert hall downtown east west players education eli broad ellen olivier esa-pekka salonen f. kathleen foley facebook fashion film flash mobs ford amphitheatre fowler museum frank gehry frank sinatra fundraising galleries games gay and lesbian geffen playhouse getty gifts glee government graffiti grand avenue greg braxton gustavo dudamel hammer museum holly myers hollywood bowl huntington iphone irene lacher it speaks to me james c. taylor jazz jazz review jeffrey deitch jessica gelt john adams john baldessari john horn jori finkel josef woodard jukebox musical julie taymor karen wada kcrw kennedy center kirk douglas theatre kirk silsbee kodak theatre la jolla playhouse la live lacma laguna playhouse las vegas latino arts laura bleiberg leah ollman lee margulies lewis segal liesl bradner lisa fung london long beach looted art los angeles ballet los angeles chamber orchestra los angeles opera los angeles philharmonic magazines mak center marcia adair margaret gray mark swed mark taper forum master chorale matthew erikson mcasd metropolitan museum of art michael govan mike boehm moca molaa monster mash musee d'orsay museum of modern art MUSEUMS music music center music review musicals national mall nea new york news nokia theatre norton simon obama obituary ocma off-broadway ojai opera opera review orange county orange county museum of art orange county performing arts center oregon shakespeare festival oscars pacific standard time pantages theatre pasadena museum of california art pasadena playhouse pasadena symphony and pops patrick kevin day patrick pacheco performance philanthropy philip

brandes photography placido domingo  
politics pop culture preservation proposition  
8 public art radio randylewis redcat reed  
johnson religion review richard s. ginell rick  
schultz ring festival rob weinert-kendt  
rubicon theatre sachi cunningham san diego  
san diego museum of art san francisco santa  
barbara santa monica college santa monica  
museum of art scarlet cheng science scott  
sandell sfmoma shakespeare sharon mizota  
shepard fairey sherry stern society south coast  
repertory southwest chamber music spider-  
man: turn off the dark sports starchitecture  
stephen adly guirgis stephen sondheim street  
art susan boyle susan carpenter susan  
emerling susan josephs susan king susan  
reiter suzanne muchnic technology television  
the spotlight **theater** theater review tony  
awards twitter tyler perry ucla ucla live  
urbanism usc victoria looseleaf video video  
games vietnam vitello's vocal music watts  
towers web/tech weblogs westside yale  
university art gallery youtube yvonne  
villarreal

## Archives

December 2010 ▾

---

## More from The Times

---

24 Frames	Afterword
All The Rage	Awards Tracker
Babylon & Beyond	Big Picture
Booster Shots	Brand X
Chatter	Company Town
Culture Monster	Daily Dish
Daily Mirror	Dodgers Blog
Fabulous Forum	Framework
Go Mobile	Greenspace
Hero Complex	Homicide Report
Jacket Copy	L.A. at Home
L.A. Now	L.A. Unleashed
La Plaza	Lakers
Ministry of Gossip	Money & Co.
Opinion L.A.	Outposts
PolitiCal	Politics Now
Pop & Hiss	Readers' Representative
Show Tracker	Technology
Top of the Ticket	Travel News & Deals
Varsity Times Insider	

### Get the Entertainment Newsletter



From screen to stage, music to art.  
See a sample | Sign up



**INSURANCE  
QUOTE NOW!**

- ✔ Real-time Quote
- ✔ Save up to \$500



TOP INSURANCE PROVIDERS

**Get Quote Now!**

 **Dependable**  
AutoInsurance

---

[Horoscopes](#)

[LATMG Media Kit](#) [LAT Events](#)

[About Us](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Help](#)

---

## Los Angeles Times

[Coastline Pilot](#) | [Daily Pilot](#) | [Huntington Beach Independent](#) | [Valley Sun](#) | [Burbank Leader](#) | [News Press](#) | [KTLA](#) | [Hoy](#) | [Brand X](#) | [LA, Los Angeles Times Magazine](#) | [ZAP2it](#)  
[Baltimore Sun](#) | [Chicago Tribune](#) | [Daily Press](#) | [Hartford Courant](#) | [LA Times](#) | [Orlando Sentinel](#) | [Sun Sentinel](#) | [The Morning Call](#)

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | Los Angeles Times, 202 West 1st Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012 | Copyright 2010

*A Tribune Web site*