

ART**Branden Koch: *Late Holiday***

when: Now through Sat 4.14 (Sat:
11am-5pm)

where: Rowland Contemporary (1118 W
Fulton Market, 312.421.6275) [map](#)

price: ★ FREE

In Brooklyn-based painter Branden Koch's confounding works, lightly rendered organic shapes and hints of architectural elements (bricks, a hardwood floor) lurk beneath the surface, upon which Koch alternately applies bold, abstract expressionist-style brushstrokes and watercolor-esque washes of paint. The pieces vacillate between vivid colors and cool, restrained blacks, whites, and grays, or perhaps between grace and aggression, decisive and haphazard mark-making. In the project room, Jason Karolak's imposing large-scale painting, mad with warm hues and drippy, imperfect shapes, is juxtaposed with an abundance of tiny, playful ink drawings. (AM)

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CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

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(<http://www.suntimes.com/entertainment/galleries/319042,WKP-News-glan30.article>)

March 30, 2007

BY MARGARET HAWKINS Gallery Glance

Inspired by Neolithic ruins in Scotland, Brooklyn-based artist Branden Koch has made a series of paintings that suggest piles of boulders as well as the fire that legend has it was harnessed at that site. Koch's paintings are both expressionistic and cartoonish, suggestive of both heroism and pop culture.

Branden Koch: "Late Holiday," rowlandcontemporary, 1118 W. Fulton Market; (312) 421-6275. Through April 14.

Margaret Hawkins is a local free-lance writer.