

C2 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007

# Galleries

THE WASHINGTON POST

By Jessica Dawson

Faux-weathered  
work by Gail  
Hillow  
Watkins.



## Making the New Look Old

■ Gail Hillow Watkins milks a single idea to the nth degree with moments of success. The artist filled the gallery with pale putty- and chalk-colored panels shaped into friezes or totems or arched like early Renaissance icons; a few are gilded at their edges. All are made from layering the rainbow-bright pages of Sunday newspaper comics onto canvas or paper, then sanding down the surface to create the weathered appearance of much older artworks. Some cartoons are sanded beyond recognition, leaving little visual interest beyond the faux-weathered surface. The works that sustain our attention reveal the funny pages as deeply melancholic; the artist suggests that they're soon-to-be relics of times past.

Gail Hillow Watkins at Gallery 10, 1519 Connecticut Ave. NW, Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 202-232-3326, to Oct. 29. [www.gallery10dc.com](http://www.gallery10dc.com)

GAIL HILLOW WATKINS/GALLERY 10