

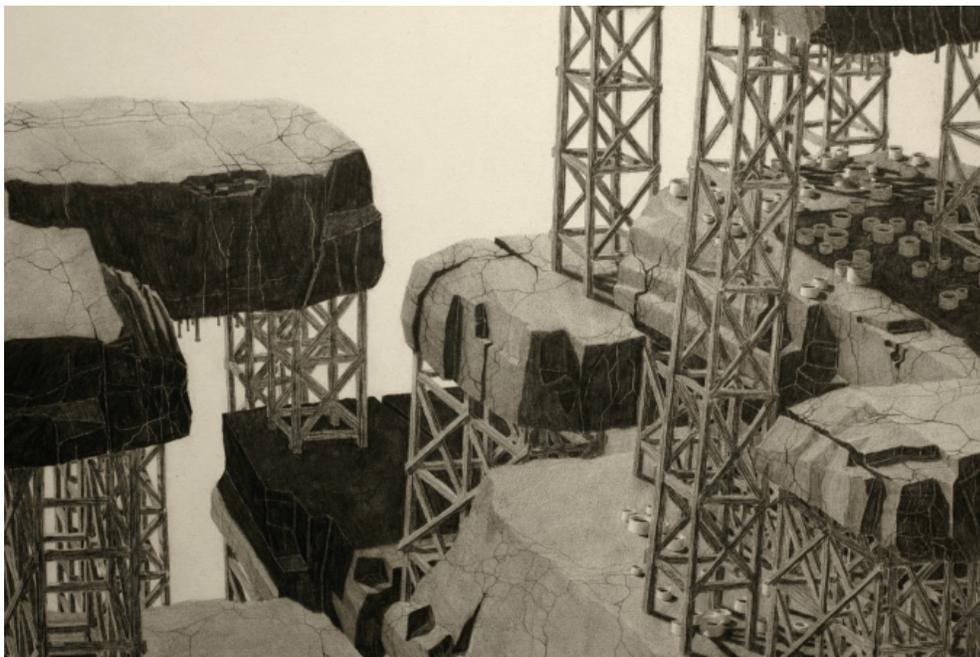
**jameswagner.com**

**January 10, 2006**

Gae Savannah and Michael Schall at Dam, Stuhltrager



Gae Savannah Shasta 2006 fabric, metal, wood 69" x 15" x 15" [detail of installation]



Michael Schall Scenic Collection Facility 2005 graphite on paper 42" x 60"

The gallery is on the edge of Williamsburg, in more than one sense. Since 1998, Dam, Stuhltrager has been operating generously and tirelessly, more or less as a non-profit, showing adventurous work in a tiny space just west of the BQE. In the best tradition of the Williamsburg gallery scene, the two principals, Leah Stuhltrager and Christobal Dam, have from the beginning simply shown work which they found they like, without commercial calculation or compromise.

Lately they've been attracting the attention of critics and curators both near and far, and a few months ago they were sufficiently encouraged and emboldened to just about triple the size of their exhibition space. This Marcy Avenue corner now offers even greater temptations to adventurous gallery fans, especially [and here comes a blatant plug] now that our ArtCal listings include a convenient [Google] map to direct art pilgrims still unfamiliar with the cooler precincts which lie east of Driggs Street.

The two shows which opened last Saturday display outrageous, luscious sculptures by Gae Savannah and serious, provocative drawings by Michael Schall. For almost ten years I have been more than a little flabbergasted each time I have encountered Savannah's wonderful and extraordinary assemblages, and while I had never seen Schall's disturbing drawings before, I expect I'm going to see much more in the future.

David Gibson curated Savannah's installation.

We were there the night of the opening. Although the excited, and exciting, crush of friends and the curious made it impossible to grab an image of an entire work in either room that night, I'd already found that these eccentric sculptures just can't be properly represented except in person, and it would take more than a quick hand-held shot to do justice to Schall's meticulously-pencilled worlds.

So, as far as this site is concerned we'll all have to be content with the teasers I'm showing above. The real show is in Brooklyn.