

# Galleries of riches

What makes a great art gallery?

First and foremost, it shows and promotes art you wouldn't see anywhere else. It nurtures artists, educates collectors, inspires curators and engages the public.

That's quite a juggling act, especially for a mom-and-pop business.

Some of the most ambitious art galleries are a few dry months away from closing, a tension heightened by the fact that the most serious gallerists show the strongest work — even if they know it has no prayer of selling. Instead, they aim to showcase the artist's depth, range or recent thinking.

"You want for people to enjoy themselves and for it to have a great ambience and for it to feel wonderful," said Jane Tyndall, owner of Tyndall Galleries. "But behind the scenes in all of that is a lot of work and a lot of planning. You really have to plan two years out for shows.

"You have to really love what you're doing. You have to see the purpose in it."

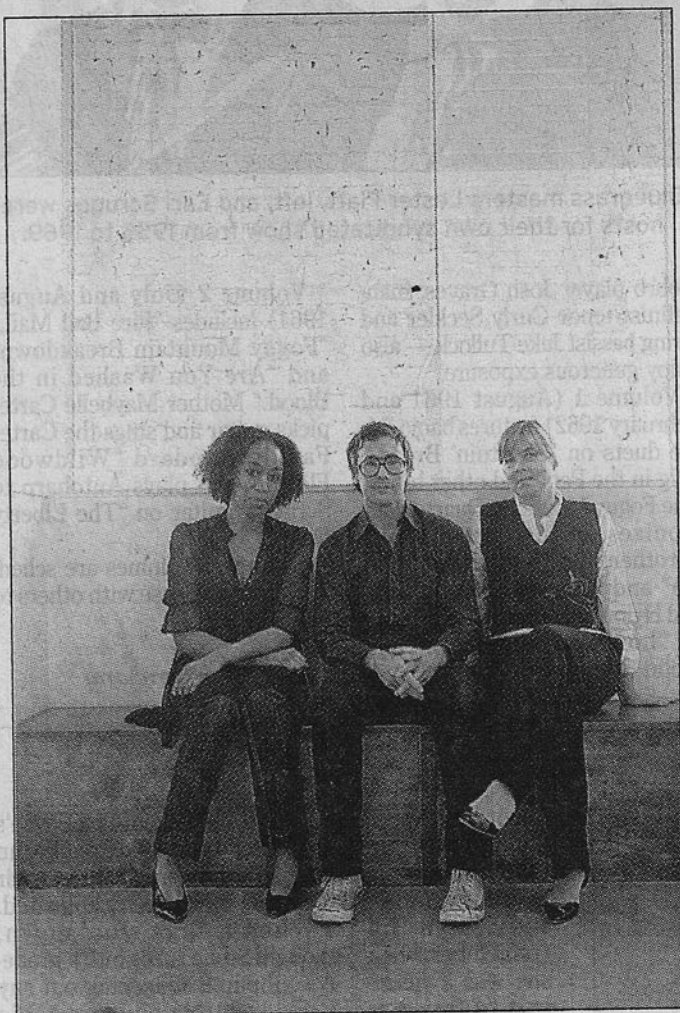
In today's Arts & Entertainment section, we highlight six galleries that bring vibrant, thought-provoking contemporary art to the Triangle. Together, they represent the best of what a private gallery can be, and they enrich the cultural life of the region. **Turn to page 3G to read more.**

**STORY BY STAFF WRITER ELLEN SUNG • PHOTOS BY JULI LEONARD**

THE NEWS & OBSERVER

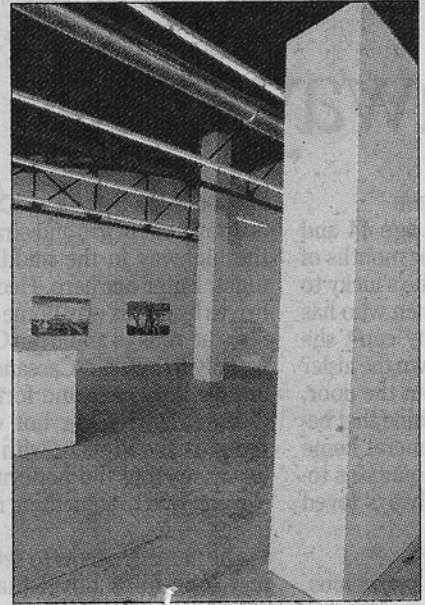
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# Arts & Entertainment



## BRANCH

Owners Teka Selman, left, Harrison Haynes and Chloe Seymore bring emerging artists to the wider attention.



## BRANCH GALLERY

**LOCATION** 401-C Foster St., Durham.

**PARTNERS** Chloe Seymore and Teka Selman.

**YEAR OPENED** 2004.

**SPECIALTY** Bringing avant-garde, emerging artists to national and international exposure. The gallery's powerful stable includes Amanda Barr, Casey Cook, Taj Forer and Harrison Haynes.

Just 2½ years old, Branch Gallery has become a major force in the Triangle arts scene – and the Triangle's most significant player in national and international art circles.

The gallery, founded by husband-and-wife Harrison Haynes and Chloe Seymore, added Teka Selman as part-owner this year. Selman was previously gallery director of the blue-chip contemporary gallery Sikkema Jenkins in New York City's Chelsea art district.

Housed in a rehabbed car dealership near downtown Durham, Branch is a classic white-box space with concrete floors and high exposed rafters. It feels like a portal to Chelsea; in fact, its reach is even farther. Branch is part of the prestigious New Art Dealers Alliance and has been accepted to art fairs around the world, including Art Koln in Germany, Aqua Art Miami and this spring's SWAB in Barcelona, Spain.

**ON VIEW** "Going Home Is Such a Lonely Ride," paintings by Harrison Haynes, and "Pioneer Species," silver gelatin prints by Jeff Whetstone, through April 28.

**CONTACT** 918-1116, [www.branchgallery.com](http://www.branchgallery.com).