ART

TAKING A WALK ON THE 'SILK ROAD'

Asian art on display at the Rich Forum



"Dark Ganesh" by Jennie Chien.



"Essence of Things" by Juri Morioka.



"Music Meditation" by Manjiree Manolkar.

By Abby Luby

Special Coppessionines

he lure of Asian art, with deep ancestral roots and cultural sway, is just one of the draws of "The Silk Road," the current art exhibition at the Rich Forum's Rosenthal Gallery in Stamford. The real thrill here is art created by local high school students, which is less academic genre study and more reflections of the very aesthetic that makes Asian art Asian.

Ceramic pots of red and gray clay made by Westhill ninth-graders were quintessentially angular and asymmetrical. Kim Blasnik's wide-mouthed, round pot as a globe has an off-white surface background to a carefully etched, dark burgundy map. The splayed fins of a fish on Mike Milone's vessel really seem underwater with dark, pointillist dots as trailing bubbles. Jen Perez's double-handled vase with two iconic Japanese figures and a bird is adroitly rendered, com-



of the main elements of Japanese art. Their art teacher, Kelly

bining some

Barney, should be proud.

Emily Harris, a student at Stamford High School, showed photographs from her trip to China. In one of many of her pieces in this show, a blurred exterior of a restaurant with garish yellow neon words is atmospheric and glitzy. In another, young Asian children happily squeeze into the frame holding up the "V" for victory sign, crazed with the camera's attention. Gary Morales, a senior at Brien McMahon High School, deftly painted a Buddhist text in Chinese calligraphy. The curating group, Picture That, should be commended for including these young artists.

these young artists.

The premise of "The Silk Road," named for the network of Eurasian trade routes started during the first millennium B.C.E., linked cultures from the Mediterranean world, Persia, India, Central Asia, China, Korea and Japan. The work is by current artists from these countries.

The quick splashes of paint in "Mongolian Migration," a painting by Ellen Yung Woods (Korean) is not as uncontrolled as it first seems. Ripping through the canvas midsection is a gaggle of horses, feet off the ground at a speedy gallop. The immediacy of the piece makes it seem like Wood just dashed it off with a premeditative calm before the implosion of creative energy.

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"Sumi Shrimp" by Chung Soon O'Dwyer.



"Geisha Mirror" by Margo Vallone.



"Suction of Reality" by Mika Yokobori.



"Pink Koi" by Duk Soon Fwang.

Contributed photos

MAKING THE ART SEEN

ADMISSION TO EVENTS FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Museums & Nonprofit Venues

THE ALDRICH CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM Arturo Herrera: Castles, Dwarfs, and Happychaps Imagery from children's books and other popular culture sources create a hybrid of works that are familiar and foreign. Through Sept. 2. The Photograph as Canvas Explores the technique of making images on the surface of photographs. Through today. David Abir: Tekrar Sound installation intended to develop an emotional and physical experience from a piece of music. Through today. W(E)AVE Recent projects by Elena Herzog and Michael Schumacher. Through today. Kysa Johnson: Blow up 73 — the Spores of White Oak, Pine, American Elm and Red Maple Chalk-on-black-board drawing of spores native to Connecticut. Through today. Dario Robleto: Chrysanthemum Anthems Solo exhibition of sculpture. Through today. \$7, \$4 for seniors and college students; free for members, children 18 and younger, kindergarten through 12th-grade teachers and all visitors on Tuesdays. Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Closed New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. 258 Main St., Ridgefield. 438-4519 or www.aldrichart.org.

THE BARNUM MUSEUM Grand Adventure: A Celebration of the American Spirit in Bridgeport One-hundred-year-old museum showcases the life and times of Barnum, General Tom Thumb, Lavinia Warren and Jenny Lind; an Egyptian mummy named Pa-lb; and a 1,000-square-foot scale model of a five-ring circus. Permanent exhibit. **P.T. Barnum: Bethel to Broadway to Bridgeport** Guides visitors through Barnum's life and career, from his hometown of Bethel, through his American Museum on Broadway and his later years living in Bridgeport. Permanent exhibit. \$5, \$4 for seniors and students, \$3 for children 4.17; free for children younger than 4 and members. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4:30 p.m. 820 Main St., Bridgeport. 331-1104 or www.barnum-museum.org.

BRUCE MUSEUM The Bruce Museum: A Century of Change Highlights the museum's nearly 100-year history and joins in the celebration of the recent publication of the Greenwich Library Oral History Project's book. Through Aug. 19. Fakes and Forgeries: The Art of Deception More than 50 examples of fakes of Western painting and sculpture from the Middle Ages to the modern era. Through Sept. 9. Changes in Our Land Permanent display of the region's environmental and historical development. Zip, Bop and Whir: Toys of the 20th Century Favorite toys from the 1900s. Through July 8. Paintings by more than 20 artists, including William Merritt Chase, Joseph DeCamp, Daniel Garber, Childe Hassam, Willard Metcalf, Theodore Robinson, John Singer Sargent, Robert Spencer, John H. Twachtman and J. Alden Weir. \$7, \$6 for seniors and children 5-12; free to children younger than 5. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m. 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich. 869-0376 or www.brucemuseum.

FLORENCE GRISWOLD MUSEUM The Circle of Friends Works by artists of the Florence Griswold House. Through July 1. In addition to the original 1817 Griswold House, where the artists of the Lyme art colony lived, the museum features a contemporary riverfront gallery, education center, historic gardens and a restored artist studio. \$8, \$7 for seniors and students, \$4 for children 6-12, free for children younger than 6. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m. 96 Lyme St., Old Lyme. 860-434-5542 or www.florencegriswoldmuseum.org.

HAMMOND MUSEUM AND JAPANESE STROLL GARDEN Incarnation Works by Korean artists. Through Sept. 8. Straddling Cultures Works by Reena Kashyap. Through Sept. 8. Mythical Landscapes: Intuitions of an Order Works by Martin Ries. Through Sept. 8. Wednesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. 28 Deveau Road, South Salem, N.Y. 914-669-5033 or www.hammondmuseum.org.

Please see ART SEEN, Page D8

-OPENINGS

ADMISSION TO EVENTS FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Special Events

BUSH-HOLLEY HISTORIC SITE Art in the Yard Guests are invited to participate in one of three two-hour workshops, watercolor, oil painting or pastel with professional artists/illustrator instructors. \$30, \$25 for Historical Society members. Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon. 39 Strickland Road, Cos Cob. 869-6899.

COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL Art Show Works by emerging artists. \$10. Today, noon-4 p.m. 4 Trolley Place, Rowayton. 866-2184 or

MAMARONECK TOWN CENTER Postcards from the Cutting Edge Works by local artists, a fundraising event to support Mamaroneck Artists' Guild's Gallery Renovation project. \$25 entrance fee. Thursday, 6:30-9 p.m. 740 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, N.Y. 914-834-1117 or www. mamaroneckartistsguild.org.

Openings

CENTER FOR HEALING AND RECOVERY Photography exhibit Works by Suzanna Duin. Friday through July. Hours by appointment. 650 Danbury Road, Ridgefield. 438-3007 or www.centerforhealingaandrecovery.com.

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Any inaccuracies in these listings may be the result of last-minute changes by the movie theaters.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Clearview's Bedford Playhouse, Route 22, 914-234-7300

Ocean's Thirteen: 1, 4, 7 Shrek the Third: 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15

BETHEL Bethel Cinema, 269 Greenwood Ave., 778-

Ocean's Thirteen: 1:40, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25 Once: 1:25, 3:25, 5:20, 7:15, 9:10 Paris Je T'Aime: 1:35, 4:20, 6:55, 9:20 Waitress: 1:30, 4:25, 6:45, 9

Showcase Cinemas, 286 Canfield Ave., 339-7171 Call for show times.

DARIEN Darien Playhouse, 1077 Post Road, 655-

Ocean's Thirteen: 1:30, 4:15, 7 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 1:30,

FAIRFIELD Community Theatre, 1424 Post Road, 255-

6255 Hot Fuzz: 1:30, 4, 7, 9:30 The Namesake: 1:30, 4, 8

Fairfield Cinemas, 41 Black Rock Turnpike, 339-7151 Away From Her: 11:10, 1:35, 4:05, 6:35, 9:05, 11:25

Mr. Brooks: 1, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45 Paris Je T'Aime: 1:15, 4, 6:40, 9:30 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11:35, noon, 3, 3:30, 6:30, 7, 10, 10:30 Shrek the Third: 12:35, 2:45, 5, 7:30, 9:45 Surf's Up: 11, 12:10, 1:10, 2:20, 3:20, 4:30, 5:30, 6:45, 7:40, 9, 9:55, 11:10 Waitress: 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25

GREENWICH Bow Tie Cinemas Plaza 3, 2 Railroad Ave., 869-4030

Ocean's Thirteen: 1, 4, 7, 9:40 Shrek the Third: 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30 Waitress: Noon, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50 Clearview's Greenwich Twin, 356

Greenwich Ave., 869-6030 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 12:15, 4, 8 Surf's Up: Noon, 2:30, 4:30, 7

Bow Tie Cinemas Playhouse, 89 Elm St., 966-0600 Ocean's Thirteen: 11:15, 2, 4:45, 7:30, 10

NEW CANAAN

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11, 2:30, 6, 9:15

NORWALK Bow Tie Cinemas Royale 6, 542 Westport Ave., 846-8797

Gracie: 9:45 Ocean's Thirteen: 11:30, 12:15, 2, 2:45, 4:45, 5:20, 7:20, 8, 9:50 Once: 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 9:20 Shrek the Third: 12:50, 1:15, 2:50, 3:30, 4:50, 5:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30 Surf's Up: 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 7, 9



Lauren German stars in "Hostel Part II."

Bow Tie Cinemas SoNo Regent, 64 N. Main St., 899-7979

Fracture: 6:30, 9:15 Hostel Part II: 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50 Knocked Up: 12:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:10 Mr. Brooks: 1:15, 4, 7:10, 10 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11:30, noon, 1, 2, 3, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8, 9 Spider-Man 3: 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40 Garden Cinemas, 26 Isaac St., 838-4504

Away From Her: 11:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:45 Black Book: 1:45, 8:20 Paris Je T'aime: 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10 The Valet: 4:40, 6:30

Waitress: 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9 IMAX Theater at Maritime Aquarium, 10 N. Water St., 852-0700 The Human Body: 11, 1, 3, 4, 7:30 Ocean Wonderland: 2

Whales: Noon PLEASANTVILLE, N.Y. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Road, 914-747-5555

Crazy Love: 12:15, 2:30, 5:15, 7:30 Journey to the Center of the Earth: Noon La Strada: 2:45, 5, 7:15 Once: 12:05, 2, 3:55, 5:50, 7:45

PORT CHESTER, N.Y. Loews The Waterfront at Port Chester, 40 Westchester Ave., 914-510-1000

Hostel Part II: 12:40, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:50 Knocked Up: 10:45, 1:45, 4:40, 7:45, 10:40 Mr. Brooks: 11:45, 2:35, 5:30, 8:10, 10:55 Ocean's Thirteen: 10:30, 11, 12:45, 1:15, 2, 3:40, 4:15, 5, 6:45, 7:15, 8, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11:15, noon, 1:20, 2:45, 3:50, 4:45, 6:15, 7:30, 8:20, 9:45 Shrek the Third: 11:35, 11:50, 2:05, 2:20, 4:20, 4:35, 6:35, 7:35, 8:50

Spider-Man 3: 1:30, 4:25, 7:20, 10:20 Surf's Up: 11, 11:05, 12:15, 1:25, 2:30, 3:45, 4:30, 6, 7, 8:30, 9:15

RYE BROOK, N.Y. Clearview's Rye Ridge Cinemas, Rye Ridge Shopping Center, 914-939-8177 Paris, Je T'Aime: 1:30, 4:15, 7

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 1, 4:30, 8 **STAMFORD** Avon Theatre, 272 Bedford St., 967-3660

Once: 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40 Waitress: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30 Bow Tie Cinemas Landmark 9, 5 Landmark Square, 324-3100 28 Weeks Later: 7:40, 10:10 Hostel Part II: 12:20, 1, 2:30, 3:30, 4:40, 5:50,

7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:40 Knocked Up: 12:10, 1:10, 3:20, 4:20, 6:20, 7:30, 9:20, 10:20 Mr. Brooks: 1:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10 Shrek the Third: Noon, 12:45, 1:30, 2:10, 3, 3:40,

4:30, 5:20, 6, 7:20, 8:20, 9:40, 10:30 Surf's Up: 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7, 9:10 Bow Tie Cinemas Majestic, 118 Summer St., 323-1690 Gracie: 8:45

Ocean's Thirteen: 1, 1:45, 4, 4:45, 7, 7:45, 9:45, Pirates of the Caribbean: Noon, 12:45, 1:30, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:30, 8:15

Spider-Man 3: Noon, 3, 6, 9 State Cinema, 990 Hope St., 325-0250 Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End: 12:45,

Shrek the Third: 12:30, 2:40, 4:40, 6:45, 8:45 TRUMBULL

Bow Tie Cinemas Marquis 16, 100 Quarry Road, 365-6500 Hostel Part II: 11:15, 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45

Knocked Up: 12:20, 1, 3:30, 4:40, 7, 8, 10:10 Mr. Brooks: 12:45, 3:20, 6:50, 9:20 Ocean's Thirteen: 11:15, 12:10, 1:10, 2, 3, 4:10 5:20, 6:30, 7:20, 8:20, 9:30, 10:10 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11, noon 1, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 6:20, 7:30, 9 Shrek the Third: 11:30, 12:30, 2, 3:10, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8, 9:10, 10 Spider-Man 3: 12:20, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30 Surf's Up: 11, noon, 1:30, 2:30, 4, 5, 6:45, 7:30, 9, 10

Waitress: 1:20, 3:45, 6:30, 9:10 WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. City Center 15 Cinema de Lux, 19 Mamaroneck Ave., 914-747-6000

Holly Hobbie: 10 a.m.

Hostel: 10:30, 12:40, 2:55, 5:05, 7:45, 9:40, Knocked Up: 10:15, 12:35, 1:05, 3:35, 4:05, 6:35, 7:05, 9:25, 9:55

Mr. Brooks: 10:25, 1:10, 3:55, 6:55, 9:50 Ocean's Thirteen: 10:15, 10:45, 1, 1:30, 3:45, 4:15, 6:40, 7:10, 9, 9:30, 10 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 10:55, 11:30, noon, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 6:05, 6:30, 7,

Shrek the Third: 11:05, 11:35, 1:20, 1:50, 3:40, 4:10, 5:55, 6:25, 8:10, 10:25 Spider-Man 3: 11:50, 3:20, 6:45, 10:05 Surf's Up: 10:20, 10:50, 12:25, 12:55, 2:35, 3:05, 4:40, 5:10, 6:50, 7:20, 8:55, 9:35 Waitress: 11:40, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 WILTON

Bow Tie Cinemas Wilton 4, 21 River Road, 761-0767

Knocked Up: Noon, 3:45, 7, 9:45 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End: 11:30, 3, 6:30, 10 Shrek the Third: 11, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:20

Surf's Up: 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:45, 9

Pendergrass celebrates quality of life for all

McClatchy News Service

PHILADELPHIA — Teddy Pendergrass is sitting in the Sound of Philadelphia souvenir shop, surrounded by his illustrious past.

Gold records hang on walls papered with album covers from his glory days with Philadelphia International Records.

Over his left shoulder, that's the young Pendergrass in white tie and tails, a gruff-voiced powerhouse as part of Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes, for whom he belted out such classics as "The Love I Lost," "Wake Up Everybody," and "If You Don't Know Me by Now."

Over his right, it's the fully grown and sexy Teddy Bear, who stepped into the limelight in the mid-1970s. The slow-jampioneer and bedroom singer chalked up five consecutive million-selling solo albums, and scored smoothas-silk hits such as "Close the Door" and "Love T.K.O.," which resulted in his being showered with female undergarments at his famously risque "Ladies Only" concerts.

But that was then. For Pendergrass, now began on March 18, 1982. That's when he crashed his Rolls-Royce, suffering a spinalcord injury that left him paralyzed from the waist down.

Such a catastrophic event might not seem like the cause for a commemorative celebration. And Pendergrass, 57, who's dressed in black with a diamondencrusted cross around his neck, speaks freely about the ways his accident transformed his life in an instant.

"I don't want to bore people, or get sappy about it," he says. "But when you're giving a sold-out concert in Europe one week and then another one at the Shubert Theater (now the Merriam), and then the next thing you're lying in a hospital bed not knowing what you're going to do next, it's quite devastating.

But one day last year, Pendergrass realized he had a milestone coming up, and it motivated him to organize "Teddy 25: A Celebration of Life, Hope and Possibilities," a June 10 gala at career is "on hold."

Philadelphia's Kimmel Center. The event, hosted by comic actress Mo'Nique, will feature performances by Patti LaBelle, Stephanie Mills, Kindred the Family Soul, Musiq Soulchild, dance company Philadanco, and a rare mini-concert by Pendergrass himself. It's a benefit for the Teddy Pendergrass Alliance, the nonprofit organization Pendergrass founded in 1998 that aids people with spinal-cord injuries.

"I was at Magee hospital last October," the soul singer says. "And it dawned on me that this year was going to be my 25th anniversary. I just thought about how grateful I am, for what has happened, and what hasn't happened. And that I have actually reached my 25th year, which I never thought I could or would."

Today, Pendergrass speaks of issues facing people with spinalcord injuries with the determination that marked his aggressive, full-throated vocal style.

"He'shardheaded," says Kenny Gamble, the head of Philadelphia International Records, with Leon Huff. Gamble and Huff were the songwriters and producers who oversaw Pendergrass' rise from drummer in the Blue Notes to solo stardom. "Even before his accident, I always thought Teddy was the strongest person

"I want to educate people about how to treat people in wheel-chairs with respect," says Pendergrass. "How to talk to them. How to not stand over people. How to get down and low and see people eye to eye, to show them that just because we're rolling, it doesn't mean we're stupid and dumb, or brain-dead. Disability doesn't mean inability.'

Pendergrass sold more than a million copies of "Love Language," the 1984 album that was his first after the accident, during which Pendergrass was trapped in the Rolls for 45 minutes with a transvestite dancer named Tenika Watson. He's recorded seven albums since, including "This Christmas I'd Rather Have Love" (1998) and 2002's live "From Teddy with Love.'

Now, though, he says his music

Bentley serves as country ambassador

BY JOHN GEROME

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The first of Dierks Bentley's two big outdoor shows this month is a gimme.

He'll play for thousands of adoring country fans this week at the CMA Music Festival in Nashville.

The second gig is tricker. He'll be the only mainstream country star to perform alongside rockers like the Police and the White Stripes at the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, Tenn., Thursday through Sunday.

Some of the Bonnaroo rock fans won't know Bentley from Toby Keith or Kenny Chesney; some of them may not care much for country music. Bentley knows this, and it

makes him a little uneasy.

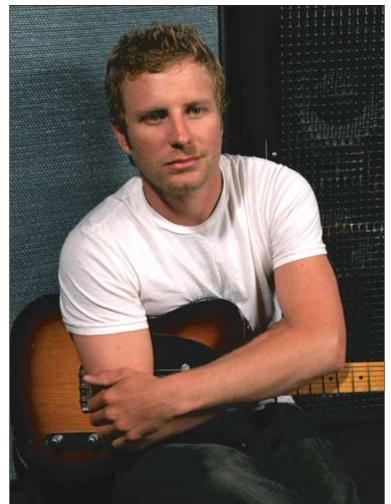
'It's putting us in a position we're not entirely comfortable with as a band," he acknowledged recently before heading off for rehearsals. "It's going to be sink or swim. But I'm excited about it."

And eager to try to change people's minds.

"This kind of music, when done properly, can appeal to anybody. It can be hokey if it's put out hokey. But if it's done right, it's the coolest type of music out there," he

says.
The annual Country Music Association festival opens Thursday and runs through Sunday. Besides Bentley, Alan Jackson, Reba McEntire, Brooks & Dunn, Martina McBride, Brad Paisley, Carrie Underwood, Gretchen Wilson, Trace Adkins, Sugarland and Big & Rich are slated to perform.

Known as "Fan Fair" when it started in 1972, the Country Music Association's annual festival has always been a chance for fans to shake hands or maybe just see their



Christopher Berkey/AP photo

Dierks Bentley will perform at several country music festivals over the

favorite country singers in person. Bentley, who at 31 is the youngest member of the Grand Ole Opry, is an obvious choice for the CMA Music Festival lineup, but he's also a good ambassador for country music at Bonnaroo, reaching out to hipsters and hippies alike. Like Dwight Yoakam and Travis Tritt in the '80s and '90s, he brings a rock swagger to country radio with hits like "What Was I Thinkin' "and "Every Mile a Memory.

"This guy is a staunch traditionalist, and he can debate you

forever about traditional country music," remarked Mike Dungan, president and CEO of Bentley's label, Capitol Records Nashville. "But he grew up in a time when he was exposed to rock music and he loves U2 and Coldplay and bands like that. I think that combination comes through."

Growing up in Phoenix, Bentley heard lots of country music from his father. But at 13 he learned to play electric guitar and got into the heavy metal "hair" bands of the day. Things changed after a friend turned him on to Hank Williams Jr. when he was 17. He immediately connected to Williams' rebellious swagger and redneck bravado.

"From 17 to 26, I listened to nothing but country and bluegrass," he says. "I was really hardcore about it."

Bentley loosened up as he got older and, oddly enough, found a niche playing in rock clubs. He even recorded a concert DVD at Denver's Fillmore Auditorium, a well-known hall patterned after the historic Fillmore Auditorium in San Francisco.

"I liked it because people there really paid attention to the music. They got a beer and sat down and faced the band. They wanted to hear the music, and not just as background music," he says. A road warrior (Bentley logged

more than 300 days away from home last year), he's gained a following on college campuses and in the rootsy Texas music scene. He's played or recorded with bluegrass stars McCoury, Alison Krauss and the Grascals and written songs with Americana singer-songwriter Buddy Miller.

"I'm a Nashville-based band and a country act, but we do things differently than most mainstream acts," he says. "We're trying to take this music to new places.

Silk

■ Continued from Page D3

Three mixed-media pieces by Yuko Ueda (Japan) titled "Underground" are dark and cavernous, exuding raw, grainy, earthen textures with sparse minimal imagery with a small white boat or a frame of 35 mm film. Single, thin, white lines float through the darkened mass contrasting the work's weightiness. Scratches give way to luminous fuchsia peeking out of the deep mudbrown facade like smoldering, gurgling lava. A hit of yellow is

a mysterious burst. Three intense pieces by Mika Yokobori (Japan) in ballpoint pen or pencil on paper are fluid landscapes of surreal imaginary.

In "Line Dancing Legs," a plethora of spindly legs support an amorphous, organic fungus with misshapen arms reaching out for leafless trees, root balls intact.

Korean artist Chung Soon O'Dwyer's "Sumi Shrimp" is a large, beautiful flourish of the shellfish done in Sumi ink brush. The lushness of O'Dwyer's "Rose" is a soft, lush watercolor, almost abstract in the use of delicate pinks and reds done with a fluid hand.

'Infant," an oil painting by Manjiree Manolkar (India) implies a cross-cultural bent that to us seems the Christian iconic Madonna figure holding an infant, but with her third eye in red, the customary forehead

dot in the Buddhist symbol of enlightenment, the background is sparse but intriguing hieroglyphics.

The all-knowing "eye" theme played here as well as in other work such as "Pink Koi" by Korean artist Duk Soon Fwang where a sweeping flourish of a red bulbous form emerges from a sea of swirling pinks revealing a central eye of the koi, otherwise known as carp.

The prescient eye in "Brahmin - Human Potential" by Vinita Jadhav (India) has a large, partial eye with a harshly painted blue-lined textured iris jutting out from the side of the canvas. Sharp-edged primary colors give way to thin lines of Sanskrit running along upper and lower lids. Many brightly colored scrolls by Phillipine artist Maria Madonna Davidoff dot the show renderings of Eastern icons in predominately yellows, oranges and blues all outlined in black. One of Juri Morioka's (Japan) pieces in the show, "Faint Echoes of Heavenly Music," is a colorful abstract work in oil with vivid, intricate layering of congealing lines and form.

"The Silk Road" is on view through June 30 at the Rich Forum, Rosenthal Gallery, 307 Atlantic St., Stamford. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, noon-5 p.m.