

participez **Concours vip** conditions and voucher on our website in collaboration with

15, 16, 17 & 18 JULY 2010
St-Charles Street
Longueuil - Québec

Vibra to the rhythms of Spain **PERCUSSIONS**

www.percussions.ca

FREE

LOTTO QUÉBEC

Québec

Yves

Longueuil

Subscribe to our email newsletter for cool weekend events & discounts!

SEVEN DAYS now

CLICK TO SIGN UP

ART

Bridge to Nowhere?

Mia Feuer, "Dissonance/Resonance," installations at the Firehouse Gallery, Burlington. Through June 26.

BY **AMY RAHN** [05.26.10]

TAGS: [art](#), [art review](#)



"Turnstile" by Mia Feuer

Matthew Thorsen

Mia Feuer's sprawling blue installation "Bridge" dominates the front room of the **Firehouse Gallery** in Burlington. The sculpture is built from painted foam that convincingly resembles I-beams and girders. These de facto broken and twisted sections of bridge seem to sprout from opposing walls, creating a morass of linear forms. The sections reach toward each other without connecting, their lines chopped into sections as if exploded. In the midst of this linear mashup, sculpted violin forms made of the same blue material cluster on the sculpture like grapes, gathering in awkward intersections of riveted beams and growing like mushrooms up the wall. Their curvilinear forms contrast with the hard-edged architectural aesthetic of the beams.

The Winnipeg-born Feuer was a 2009 participant in **Burlington City Arts' Seven Below artist-in-residency program**. She had what the Seven Below website describes

EMAIL THIS

PRINT VERSION

FEEDBACK

BOOKMARK ...

What's this?

Get Vermont's top stories delivered in...

THE daily 7

CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE

3 DAY FAMILY GETAWAY

IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS, QUEBEC!

MOST POPULAR

- Seven Years Later, Burlington is Still Waiting for a Real Bus Station
 - Hey, Buddy, Wanna Buy a Poll?
 - Whiskey Tango Foxtrot: What's up with the Harbor Hide-A-Way on Route 7?
 - Dunne's Deal
 - In Good Company?
 - The Main Item
 - Raising the Steaks
 - Free Will Astrology
-
- A Photographer Is "Banned" for Taking Pictures on Church Street
 - Last Bites
 - Fame-Seeking Vermonter Gets His Shot in a New Book
 - Naked Ambition
 - Clicks to Licks
 - Is Vermont Disappearing? Yes, and a New Study Says There's Only One Solution
 - Couple Sells Trailer After Volunteers Replace Roof

as a “Hebrew-Zionist education,” and her experiences living in both Israel and Palestine inform her works at the Firehouse.

ALSO BY AMY RAHN

- [Motion Pictures](#)
- [Blonde Ambition](#)
- [Masters of Art](#)
- [Windows on the Worlds](#)
- [Plein-Air Artists Aim to Conserve, Not Just Paint, the Landscape](#)

ARTICLES IN ART

- [Canning Do](#)
- [Brandon Artist and Town at Odds Over Size of Painting](#)
- [All that Sparkles](#)
- [Fighting Spirit](#)
- [Vermont Visionaries](#)

TAGS

- [art](#)
- [art review](#)

The audio guide, which can be accessed via cellphone, is particularly helpful when one is viewing Feuer’s installations. It offers context and culturally specific knowledge that visitors might not otherwise have. The guide explains, for example, that “Bridge” references the crumbling infrastructure of the West Bank. With that understanding, viewers can access the work on a more conceptual level, as a metaphor for the complex and seemingly intractable conflicts plaguing the region.

In the back room of the gallery hangs Feuer’s work “Shuay, Shuay,” a pale-green neon sign made to look like the handwritten Arabic words that mean “slowly, slowly.” It recalls a phrase the artist often heard in the West Bank. As the audio guide explains, people there use it as a kind of shorthand for the incredibly slow pace of the peace process and the difficulties of daily life.

“Turnstile,” also in the back room, is a large-scale maze of steel rotating doors that recall a subway. Some of the

spoke-like doors allow passage, while others are stationary, impeding and confusing traffic through the sculpture. Turnstiles are ubiquitous in the West Bank, where people must travel through checkpoints every day, not knowing whether they’ll be allowed through. As viewers enter each turnstile of Feuer’s installation, they face the same ambiguity; some doors turn, and some remain immovable. Viewers must enter the cage-like space of the turnstile and take their chances.

In “Untitled (Encounter at the School of Art at Nablus University, Summer 2007),” a video installation adjacent to “Turnstile,” the camera focuses on a young man singing and playing traditional Arabic songs on guitar, with a group of other people heard off-camera. The audio guide describes this work as ironic, given that Feuer happened on this group singing the day after shootings at the school killed eight students. What seems to be a happy gathering may actually be a means of escaping the constant weight of violence and fear. The circumstances of the video and its installation near “Shuay, Shuay” and “Turnstile” reinforce the hardships of life in occupied lands, and the physical and emotional toll of the conflict.

8. State Cracks Down on Burlington–Area Chinese Restaurant Owners

1. [Hard Lessons](#)
2. [A Photographer Is "Banned" for Taking Pictures on Church Street](#)
3. [Shadows and Light](#)
4. [Naked Ambition](#)
5. [Where There's Smokejacks, There's Fire...](#)
6. [A Notch Above](#)
7. [Pollinate This](#)
8. [Columnist to Speak about Journalism and His Post–Katrina Transformation](#)

Turnstile Access Control

Waist High, Full Height & Optical. Security Gates & Crowd Control. www.HaywardTurnstiles.com

Game Graphic Designing

Westwood Degree Programs. With Flexible Schedules. Get More Info. www.Westwood.edu



Ads by Google

DIYGuy

Now that I had some time to think about this, here it is: If you are active, health-conscious, socially liberal,...

- [Women Seeking Men](#)
- [Women seeking Women](#)
- [Men seeking Women](#)
- [Men seeking Men](#)
- [I Spy](#)



The musical-sounding title “Dissonance/Resonance” encompasses both the physical form and sounds of the exhibition. The violins in “Bridge,” the metal-on-metal screech of “Turnstile” and the singing in Feuer’s video work contribute to the sonic atmosphere of the space. Combining the twisting tendrils of the broken bridge, the spiky turnstiles and the languid words “Shuay, Shuay,” the exhibition is a layered matrix of experiences that mirrors the complexity of challenges in the Middle East. Feuer references the physical landscape of the region — its blockades and crumbling bridges — but wisely steers clear of the worn, unhelpful polarization of its political landscape. Her works make clear the shared humanity of the viewer and those on all sides of the conflict, while obscuring the issues that have long divided them.

[EMAIL THIS](#) [PRINT VERSION](#) [FEEDBACK](#) [What's this?](#)

« [PREVIOUS ARTICLE](#) | [ART \(2123\)](#) | [NEXT ARTICLE](#) »



Seven Days Is The Bee's Knees in Morrisville really, well, the bee's knees? Alice finds out:

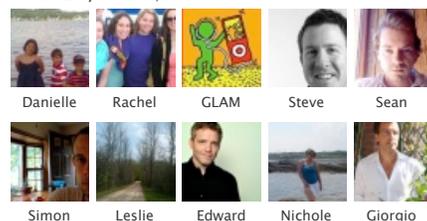


Blurt: The Seven Days Staff Blog: Alice Eats: The Bee's Knees
7d.blogs.com
82 Lower Main Street, Morrisville 888-7889 Ask anyone where to find good food in Morrisville and they will tell you The Bee's Knees is the place. When I spent this past Sunday in Hyde Park, I did consider heading to...

18 minutes ago

Seven Days Grab a slice, a COLD Magic Hat, relax, and kick back to the David

Seven Days has 3,333 fans



[Seven Days on Facebook](#)

Contact us:

- Advertising
- Staff Directory
- Submissions
- Sponsorships

About us:

- Website FAQ
- Our Story
- Privacy Policy

Our Websites:

- Seven Days
- Classifieds
- Dining Guide
- Personals

Can't get enough?

Subscribe to NOW, our email newsletter, for weekend events & discounts!

enter your email here



ALL RIGHTS RESERVED © SEVEN DAYS 1995-2010 | PO BOX 1164, BURLINGTON, VT 05402-1164 | 802.864.5684