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## Art openings galore in Chicago this fall From faceless busts to 3-D installations, there's something for everyone

September 10, 2010 | By Lauren VieraTribune reporter

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Autumn — and the autumn art season — is upon us once again.

This is the one time of year when the majority of local visual [arts](#) venues align their openings to a single night (Friday!) in order to capitalize on the crowds, the weather and that deeply rooted back-to-school fervor that fuels our desire to get cultured.

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Navigating it all can be a bit overwhelming, unless you've got a gallery-hopping game plan. Pick a specific [neighborhood](#), or follow your curiosity. Those fond of classic figurative painting should prioritize [visits](#) to Ann Nathan Gallery or the Highland Park Art Center, while hipsters in search of offbeat art will flock to Johalla Projects and Threewalls. Up-and-comer Dan Gunn is the star Friday at Lloyd Dobler Gallery while Shane Campbell Gallery breaks in a new address with subtly beautiful paintings from Anthony Pearson.

Behold: Your guide to the most noteworthy openings, along with a save-the-date guide to the rest of the fall — the best art season of all is on...

### Up-and-comers

These are the names likely to linger on the tips of the tongues, especially for those who closely follow the rotating cast of emerging artists. **Dan Gunn** is a recently [graduated](#) product of the School of the Art Institute who has been playing with plywood, cutting it up into visual motifs. A collection of recent works called "Multistable Picture Fable" opens Saturday at Lloyd Dobler (*1545 W. Division St., 2nd floor, 312-961-8706; [lloyddoblergallery.com](http://lloyddoblergallery.com)*). **Stephanie Syjuco** has arrived nationally, exhibiting at major institutions such as New York's Whitney [Museum](#) of American Art. Her show at Gallery 400, "Particulate Matter (Things, Thingys, Thingies)," continues her explorations of counterfeit and mismatched mass production (*400 S. Peoria St., 312-996-6114; [uic.edu/aa/college/gallery400](http://uic.edu/aa/college/gallery400)*). Golden Age Gallery presents "Faux Weirdo," new work by **Lauren Anderson**, which continues to propel this young artist's portfolio into uncharted territory. In the past she's created a pinata shaped like a PBR can; for this exhibition, she's made a series of smoke-bomb inspired drawings and sculptures (*119 N. Peoria St., 312-288-8535; [shopgoldenage.com](http://shopgoldenage.com)*).

### Classic and figurative artists

German photo-artist **Gert Wiedmaier** softens his images of Parisian life to an impressionist-grade fade for his solo show at Thomas [Masters](#) Gallery (*245 W. North Ave., 312-440-2322; [thomasmastersgallery.com](http://thomasmastersgallery.com)*), while **Tim Lowly**, a longtime contributor to the local painting and drawing scene, continues to produce startling, photorealist images of [experiences](#) spent nurturing his disabled daughter. His latest show of paintings and woodcuts, "Without Moving (25)," opens Saturday at Lincoln Square's Fill in the Blank Gallery (*5038 N. Lincoln Ave., 773-878-1750; [fillintheblankgallery.com](http://fillintheblankgallery.com)*).

The elongated title "Tethered to My World — Contemporary Figure Painting: Location, Chicago" is the self-explanatory subject of the fall show (reception Saturday) at the Art Center in Highland Park (*1957 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, 847-432-1888; [theartcenterhp.org](http://theartcenterhp.org)*), which includes work from brilliantly detailed [painter](#)/drawer **Kevin Wolff**, as well as familiar locals **Karl Wirsum**, **Andreas Fischer** and **Elizabeth**

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**Shrev.** For something completely different, don't miss "Introducing **Stephen Cefalo**" at Ann Nathan Gallery (212 W. Superior St., 312-664-6622; [annnathangallery.com](http://annnathangallery.com)), in which eerie, Dutch-style oil paintings make bold statements.

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### Weird and the beautiful

A cartoonlike [Neighborhood](#)  and a weeping Abraham Lincoln are two of the half-dozen sculptures **Ben Stone** created for his second solo show at Western Exhibitions (119 N. Peoria St., 312-480-8390; [westernexhibitions.com](http://westernexhibitions.com)).

"Poignant Trash" is the subject of renowned [painter](#)  **Connie Noyes'** show at EC Gallery (215 N. Aberdeen St., 312-850-0924; [ec-gallery.com](http://ec-gallery.com)), whose works feature cast-off utilitarian items so gussied up, they're almost unrecognizable. **Montgomery Perry Smith** fashions soft, circular compositions from faux flowers and felt, producing polished, craft-chic sculptures. A collection of his latest, dubbed "Pit Worship," opens Saturday at Johalla Projects (1561 N. Milwaukee Ave., 708-280-3940; [johallaprojects.wordpress.com](http://johallaprojects.wordpress.com)). Dubhe Carreno Gallery is often home to exhibits that are equally creepy and beautiful, and ceramicist **Elise Siegel** is no exception. Her faceless busts and topless bottoms are the focus of "make/believe" (118 N. Peoria St., 312-666-3150; [dubhecarrenogallery.com](http://dubhecarrenogallery.com)).

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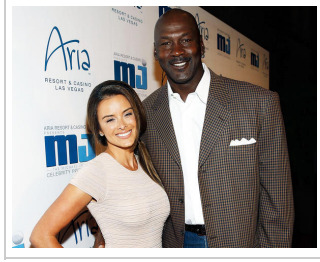
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