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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010

### VISUAL ART Yesterday the Stranger Suggested: Amir Zaki at the James Harris Gallery

posted by KYLE REGAN on WED, JAN 13, 2010 at 3:36 PM

Kyle Regan—a masochistic *Stranger* reader—has vowed to do every single thing recommended by the *Stranger Suggests* (movies, galleries, bars, concerts) for the month of January. Look for his reports daily on Slog. —Eds.

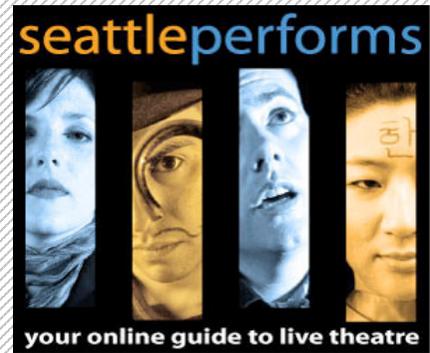
Eugene and I learned a lesson yesterday: Googling an address without an zip code is NOT good enough. My directions to go to "312 Second Ave S Seattle" lead us south. Deep south. White Center south. You would think that Pioneer Square would qualify as more "Seattle" than fucking Rat City, but whatever.

There were two collections on display: Amir Zaki's Relics (lifeguard towers) and Ron Nagle's sculpture, a series of... sculptures. I came for the suggested pictures of towers thrust into the sky, and I was not disappointed. Thrusting towers... highbrow. Turns out the James Harris Gallery closed at 5 pm. This seemed odd. Who takes a break in the middle of their workday and swings by an art gallery? Wouldn't later hours be better? I almost had to skip it entirely due to a tight schedule. The James Harris Gallery was dead. I expected to woo the art crowds with my new double-breasted pea coat. A pea coat! And a scarf! I was ready to mingle, wine and dine, spit the shit, etc. Instead I stood there like a jackass with an overpriced coat in an empty hall. I asked a staffer, Jim, if today had been busy. I was the 5th attendee that day (at nearly 3 pm). We don't have lifeguard towers in Seattle. The closest things are the lifeguard highchairs on Green Lake's toxic waters. A far cry from the OC towers pictured. They looked alien. Most of the photos had cloudy, cold backgrounds. Californian structures with Seattle-like weather hit me harder than I expected. Made me think of Alki Beach in summer: hot dogs, flip flops, gratuitous reggae music. The daydreaming ended pretty quickly when we went back to the shitstorm outside.



Poor planning aside, I enjoyed myself. Jen Graves's recommendation definitely changed my perception of, em, lifeguard towers. Now I see them as something more whimsical. I wanted to debate Sheryl Crow's hotness with Graves, but she didn't show. Do any of *The Stranger's* staff make it to the events they suggest? If these things are so good, why doesn't the whole editorial staff show up?

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Tractor Music, Beer & Liquor event schedule for Jan 7-9, featuring bands like Cody Beebe & The Crooks, Black Whales, and Eldridge Gravy & The Court Supreme.

Pirate's Plunder event info: 1301 Alaskan Way, 206-624-5673, www.piratesplunder.com

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REGISTERED On UNREGISTERED On OLDEST FIRST

"If these things are so good, why doesn't the whole editorial staff show up?"

1

You should have seen us at Shabazz Palaces.

STRANGER STAFF

Posted by Eric Grandy on January 13, 2010 at 3:42 PM

### STRANGER PERSONALS

Three personal ads: peppermacaroni: Women Seeking Men; electron\_spin: Men seeking Women; Yes, Please.