



## By Holly Myers

Special to The Times

### Photo installations that aim high

The group show at Carl Berg Gallery is an attention grabber, with three large-scale photographic installations that aim to make an impact.

Katrin Korfmann's "Grey, 13 min., 9 sec., 2006" is the most austere of the lot. A 10-by-20-foot grid made up of 650 mostly sequential video stills taken at the Holocaust memorial in Berlin, the work emphasizes the effect of the monument by cutting out the sky, outlying areas and any geographical feature that might lend a sense of perspective and presenting it simply as a dizzying sea of melancholy gray blocks peppered with meandering human figures — one of whom, poignantly, carries a balloon.

Todd Gray's "California Missions: Horse (Brown)" is a sculptural work involving a roughly 8-by-5-foot free-standing panel. The panel's front is covered in mirror, which is startling if you come around the corner not expecting to be confronted with your own image. The back, however, holds a greater surprise: a photograph of tree branches, bisected by the rear end of a taxidermy horse, standing upright, as if walking into the photograph. Gray showed other works from this series, each with a different breed of animal, in his survey at Cal State L.A.'s Luckman Gallery in late 2004, but this one — stark, enigmatic and strangely elegant — works particularly well on its own.

Brenna Youngblood's installation consists of eight individual paintings hung in a dense cluster across the length of one wall. With the ink barely dry on her master of fine arts degree from UCLA and a UCLA Hammer Projects show already under her belt, Youngblood appears poised for success, and this is a fittingly impressive first postgraduate leap. Her style, which weaves fragments of photographs into thin washes of murky pigment, is audaciously distinctive and, presented in this quantity, makes a potent impression.

Carl Berg Gallery, 6018 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, (323) 931-6060, through July 1. Closed Sunday and Monday. [www.carlberggallery.com](http://www.carlberggallery.com)