



Joan Backes, *Steel House* ©2015

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Art from Yellow Peril Gallery to chase away summer blahs

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PROVIDENCE, R.I. -- The dog days of late July and August are usually chill-out time in the art world. But apparently no one bothered to tell Vanphouthon Souvannasane and Robert P. Stack, the director and curator, respectively, of Providence's Yellow Peril Gallery.

Not only are they opening a new exhibit this weekend at their Valley Street headquarters, but they've joined forces with the Jamestown Arts Center to present "Burning Down the House," a multi-artist exhibit (through Aug. 15) devoted to themes of shelter, home and family.

The result is just what you'd expect from one of Rhode Island's most fiercely independent art galleries: a mix of established and up-and-coming artists (including several artists with international reputations) with a strong emphasis on various flavors of Conceptual Art, multimedia and installation.

Among the highlights are a series of spare, uber-Minimalist sculptures by Joan Backes, which reduce the idea of "home" to its barest essence; an installation by Phillipe Lejeune that turns a series of plain cedar shingles into something akin to an enchanted forest; and Jennifer Avery's "A House Is Not A Home Without A Cat," a playful Pop Art homage to the feline that should seduce cat lovers of all ages.

Back in Providence, meanwhile, Yellow Peril is hosting an exhibit devoted to Chicago multimedia artist Snow Yunxue Fu. The opening takes place Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. For more info. jamestownartcenter.org and yellowperilgallery.com.