GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

EXPLORE

ART GALLERIES-DOWNTOWN

Tam Ochiai

Through April 29. • Closing soon

Team 83 Grand St. Downtown

212-279-9219

Website









Remember ashtrays? Now banished from nearly all indoor spaces in the city, they've been rescued by the Japanese artist from secondhand shops and incorporated into surprisingly graceful tabletop abstractions. In most of these quiet compositions, one or two sit on a painted base. "CD (Carrie Fisher, Debbie Reynolds)" features kindred squares of metal-trimmed marble—one big, one small—with matching cigarette rests, like modernist memorials on an avocado-hued ground. The artist strikes a very different tone with a blue-plastic promotional giveaway from the New York State lottery: the lone ashtray sits in the corner of a wooden rectangle decorated with expressive squiggles. Those who haven't yet given up the vice are invited to smoke in the gallery, and the sight is practically shocking.