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Letter from L.A.

By Irit Krygier
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Jus Juchtmans, 990325

Car culture

Jonathan Stephenson of Rocket Gallery in London organized a show called "Surface Speed" at Cirrus Gallery. Issues of desire in our consumer culture are central to the work of the Portuguese artist Augusto Alves da Silva, whose poignant photographs contrast Ferraris in the showroom to the obviously poor spectators peering in through the windows. Alves da Silva's photos go well with the Minimalist paintings of the Belgian artist **Jus Juchtmans**, whose fluorescent monochromes evoke high-gloss automotive finish.

Angles is presenting photographs by Annica Karlsson Rixon, a Swedish artist who lives in Sweden but is a graduate of California Institute of the Arts. She traveled across the United States taking pictures at truck stops of truckers and their vehicles. Some of her photos are close-ups of reflections in the truck paint surfaces, images that evoke Minimalist painting. Others are evocative images of trucker's hand gestures. The work combines notions of painting with ideas from cinema -- a theme that could apply to the festival as a whole.