

NUVO

Indy's **alternative** voice



Evan Lurie Gallery

Stepping into the sleek interior of the Evan Lurie Gallery (www.evanluriegallery.com), curated with the kind of contemporary art that readily confounds the likes of Thomas Kinkadee, you might think you've just been teleported to New York or L.A. The very presence of this gallery – located on Carmel's Main Street – has disconcerted some Carmelites who prefer the uniform suburban sprawl of the pre-Arts & Design District days. So there's perhaps some irony, intentional or not, in the title of the Lurie Gallery's upcoming show: *Memoirs from Suburbia*. Featured artist Peter Drake certainly uses the visual language of irony in his paintings set in '50s suburban developments. Although clever and masterfully rendered (one of his paintings features a naked man and wife aiming slingshots from their front yard), some of this work seems like well-trodden ground. But in Drake's latest paintings, where you see blown-up images of toy lead soldiers against vast landscapes, he's moved into territory that's all his own. A number of these paintings will be included in this first-time retrospective of Drake's work, opening Sept. 19 with a reception from 5-10 p.m. Also on display will be the "Automata" mechanical sculptures of Tom Haney, Drew Simpson's hyper-realistic miniature paintings and Michael Fitts' paintings of brand name products (loved by suburbanites everywhere) on scrap metal canvases. --Dan Grossman