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Style

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Arts

Galleries B5



Realists' Vision

Lani Irwin and Joey P. Manlapaz are showing at Gallery K. Irwin's technically dazzling oil paintings are inspired by early Renaissance masters such as Giotto di Bondone, but have the spare realism and psychological presence of Edward Hopper. People, including the artist herself, are the subjects of these works, which explore issues of personal identity and self-discovery.

Manlapaz, too, is a realist. She paints the views and vistas of Washington with an eye for telling detail, like the vibrant patterns formed where the red brickwork meets the roofing slates in her "Arts and Industries Building." But

what keeps her work from being well-done postcard painting is a stylized, idealized edge. This isn't our Washington, a noisy, dirty city full of potholes and panhandlers. This is a clean, car-free metropolis. In "Memorial Bridge," a view looking across the deserted span toward Arlington National Cemetery, Manlapaz offers a reminder of how beautiful Washington can be.