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Arts & Entertainment Guide

DANA HOLST

From a distance, Holst's works appear to be miniature tombstones or misplaced teeth. But upon closer inspection, one can see they're actually ethereal oil paintings rendered in exquisite detail on repurposed ivory piano keys—all 100 of which depict animals being abused by humans. Holst imagines the fate of *Lady and Pups* with meticulous care: the pups are dead, the mother distraught. But despite the works' Lilliputian size, there is nothing small about the pain she records. In larger paintings, humans commit similar evils. In *Woebegone*—the exhibition's title piece—two boys lure a neighbour's cat (one holds a noose while forcing the other to make the kill). In the 15-foot-wide diptych, *Going, Going, Gone*, we catch a young bunny ear-clad girl in the split second before she is run down by three greyhounds, their ears amputated to bloody stumps. Holst's portraits of tragedy are disturbing, but they're too compelling to miss. Artwork \$250-\$12,000. —*Kate Regan*

Woebegone / November 3 - 25, 2006 / Opening Friday November 3rd, 7 - 10 p.m.
Katharine Mulherin Contemporary Art Projects