

# The New York Times

## Art in Review

August 8, 2008

LIA HALLORAN

DCKT Contemporary

195 Bowery, at Spring Street, Lower East Side

Through Sept. 13

Lia Halloran's long-exposure photographs show skateboarding moves as loops and squiggles of light along the banks of the Los Angeles River. Ms. Halloran, wearing a bicyclist's light on her wrist or helmet, rides the board while a friend works the camera.

The images in her second New York solo, "Dark Skate," have a gimmicky, special-effects quality. Still, Ms. Halloran has the credentials for both photography (she has a master of fine arts degree from Yale) and skating (as a teenager, she was featured in Thrasher magazine). She is also the latest in a long line of artists, including Doug Aitken and Bas Jan Ader, to find beauty in the grim, industrial recesses of the Los Angeles nightscape. "In Search of the Miraculous," a conceptual piece in which Mr. Ader roamed the city on foot with a flashlight in hand, comes to mind.

Ms. Halloran skates a zigzag pattern in "Upland Full Pipe," a Twombly-esque scribble in "LA River Bridge" and a calligraphic flourish in "Pasadena Hill." Her photographs capture a kind of ephemeral, midair graffiti, as fun to look at as it surely was to make.

KAREN ROSENBERG