

Stenvall's 'Ducks' Arrive at Embassy Row

Washington Embassies, and particularly the Embassy of Finland in the center of "Embassy Row" has been the venue for innovative cultural events and exhibitions in recent years. The Embassy itself is an exciting example of imaginative Finnish design and worthy of a visit to enjoy its interior details and the relationship of the building to the natural environment. The present exhibition, *Birdhouse*, is a collection of unique oil paintings by the Finnish artist Kaj Stenvall and hangs until April 29, 2007. The humor is bold and satiric—the common motif of these paintings seems to be the innocent emotions of a duck—a figure appearing in each image and in a variety of situations from daily life, in and around the natural and the domestic world. It is a sure cure for winter blues to see these ducks filling the halls of a prestigious embassy, but don't be deceived. Stenvall is a master of color and composition and his works reflect the eye of a masterful artist and technician. (The Embassy of Finland is at 2201 Mass. Ave. NW 202-298-5865).



Kaj Stenvall, *In Faith*, 2005