

## EVENTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Photography exhibit revisits Wild West

By MARK LONGAKER  
Current Correspondent

Time travel is possible. A new exhibition at the Smithsonian American Art Museum titled "Framing the West: The Survey Photographs of Timothy H. O'Sullivan" takes visitors back to the fabled Wild West with evocative landscape photography from the 19th century. The pictures vividly conjure up mountains, canyons, rivers, lakes, deserts and ancient pueblos in a rugged land now largely lost to encroaching civilization.

On view are more than 120 photographs shot by the Irish

immigrant Timothy O'Sullivan on two survey expeditions in the American West between 1867 and 1874. The show also illustrates the photographer's lasting influence, presenting landscapes by

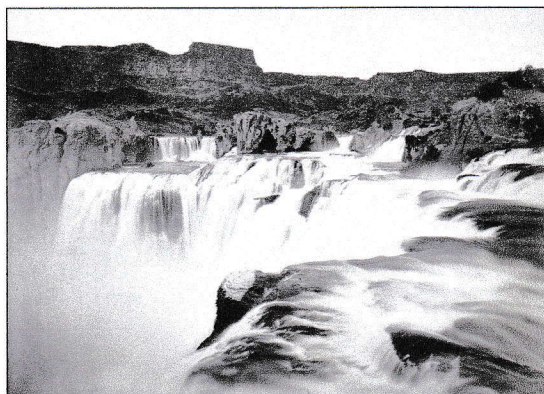
six modern photographers who were inspired by O'Sullivan. Accompanying the images are the artists' reasons for admiring the old master.

O'Sullivan likely learned his craft from Mathew Brady, and his first known photographs show the carnage on Civil War battlefields. During the war and after, he kept a studio in Washington, D.C., at 7th and D streets NW, a few blocks from the present-day Smithsonian

American Art Museum.

In 1867, O'Sullivan joined a geologic and geographic survey led by geologist Clarence King to explore and map a 1,000-mile-long corridor between Sacramento, Calif., and Cheyenne, Wyo. He spent four years with the project, which followed the route selected for the coming transcontinental railroad and created the first geological cross section of the Rocky Mountains.

O'Sullivan's job was to document significant geological features, especially those supporting King's belief in catastrophism, a theory that catastrophic events, rather than slow changes over eons, shaped the earth. So the show includes some images like "Contorted Limestone, Wright's Cañon, Nevada" (1867), focusing on buckled striations in a towering wall of limestone.



Above: "Shoshone Falls, Snake River, Idaho, View Across Top of Falls," Timothy H. O'Sullivan, 1874, albumen print, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division; left, "Timothy H. O'Sullivan," Wheeler & Angerman, about 1873, collection of E. Marshall Pywell

But there are also many panoramic shots, including a remarkable series showing Idaho's massive double-tiered Shoshone

Falls, which the photographer visited twice. These spectacular falls lay outside the purview of both surveys. See **West**/Page 31

## Photography exhibition depicts St. Albans, NCS

"Alma Mater," featuring D.C. artist Jennifer Dorsey's photographs of St. Albans and National Cathedral schools, will open Friday with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. at **Flashpoint Gallery** and continue through March 27.

Shot in 2007 and 2008, the photographs portray interiors devoid of people at the two Northwest schools, where Dorsey teaches. They "evoke a time-

## On EXHIBIT

less and universal feeling," according to a release.

Located at 916 G St. NW, the gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. 202-315-1305.

■ "Drag," presenting large-scale close-up photographs of drag queens by Jason Horowitz, will open Saturday at **Curator's Office** and continue through March 27.



Jason Horowitz's photographs are on display at Curator's Office.

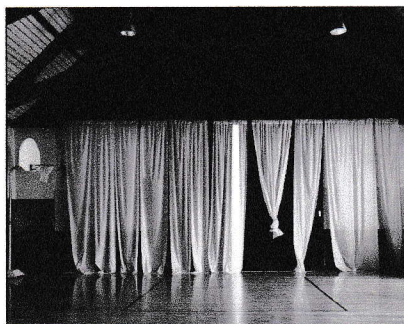
real rather than ideal," states a release.

An opening reception will take place Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. Located at 1515 14th St. NW in Suite 201, the gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. 202-387-1008.

■ "In the Tower: Mark Rothko," highlighting the black-on-black paintings that Rothko made in 1964 in connection with his work on a chapel for the Menil Collection in Houston, will open Sunday in the **National Gallery of Art's East Building Tower Gallery** and continue through Jan. 2.

Located at 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, the museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 202-737-4215.

■ **Parish Gallery** recently opened an exhibit of prints and collages by poet, visual artist, educator and art organizer Margaret Taylor Burroughs and will continue

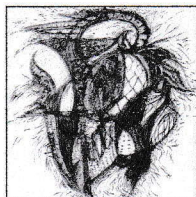


Jennifer Dorsey's "Whitby Gym" is part of an exhibit at Flashpoint Gallery of her photographs of St. Albans and National Cathedral schools.

ue it through Feb. 27.

An artist's reception will take place Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. Located at 1054 31st St. NW, the gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. 202-994-2310.

■ "Structured Turbulence," presenting paintings by Dana Frostick, opened recently at **Hillyer Art Space** and will continue through Feb. 27.

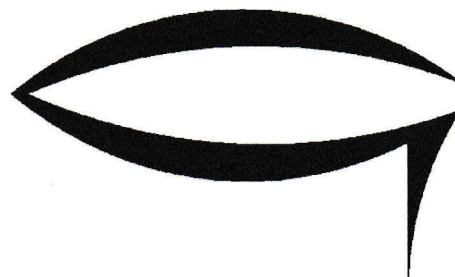


Dana Frostick's "Nest of Rhinoceros" is part of an exhibit at Hillyer Art Space.

a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 202-338-0680.

■ "It's a beautiful thing," a group show honoring artist Bill Hill, opened recently at **Jane Haslem Gallery**, where it will continue through March 15.

A reception will take place Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m. See **Exhibits**/Page 31



## Georgetown Gallery Gaze

Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

Don't miss our special "Date Night" raffle. A chance to win dinner for two at one of three participating restaurants: Paper Moon, Sea Catch, and Bodega Spanish Tapas and Lounge.

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday

Galleries of Georgetown open their doors from 5 to 8pm. Featured artists and artisans from around the world. Participating Galleries, Maps, and More Information visit:

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