



## Best in Showby

R.C. Baker

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### 'Zeitgeist'

Natacha Ivanova's splashy mural of a sleeping beauty, horse-size rabbit, toy soldiers, and glowing owls captures the way dreams drift between homey logic and charged fantasy. The painting is the perfect keynote to this international group show, set in a raw space that was once (according to the gallery assistant) a "gentlemen's club." Which perhaps explains the cheesy relief of a woman astride a large cat situated above the drained swimming pool in a back room; Vuk Vidor's painting *Down and Speechless* (2006), depicting an abject Green Lantern spouting blacked-out speech balloons, is propped up in the deep end. In the main gallery you can follow the ping-pong balls in Egill S whimsical video as they bound between real buckets on the floor, and also take in Chris Sauter's huge American flag, in which the stripes have been tilled by a star-spangled plow. No doubt this space sported some interesting hijinks in its previous incarnation, and this inaugural show is carrying on the tradition.

*Cueto Project, 551 W 21st, 212-229-2221. Through March 24.*

<http://www.villagevoice.com/art/0712,baker,76082,13.html>