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ARTS & LEISURE SECTION

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SPIRIT OF WOOD

The SPIRIT OF THE WOOD exhibit in the Zenith Gallery Sculpture Space is a great show. It features artists, Lynda Smith-Bügge who makes mixed media assemblages that emphasize wood. Smith-Bügge's pieces, many of them mounted on pedestals that are part of the work, rely on the contrast between found and worked material.

At her most direct, Smith-Bügge highlights the shape and texture of gnarled wood. LIMINAL SPACE places a sliced dogwood branch atop a sleek walnut column. She usually manipulates the material further or adds such competing textures as metal or ceramic. The spirit of this wood seems ancient and ritualistic. Constructed of sliced branches and two wires, EPIPHANY suggests an archaic musical instrument. RAINCATCHER, with a hollow log poised to funnel water into a bowl, looks like something from a Shinto shrine.

Reviewed by Mark Jenkins

SPIRIT OF WOOD
Zenith Gallery Sculpture Space
June 15 – August 29, 2011
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC



EPIPHANY



RAINCATCHER