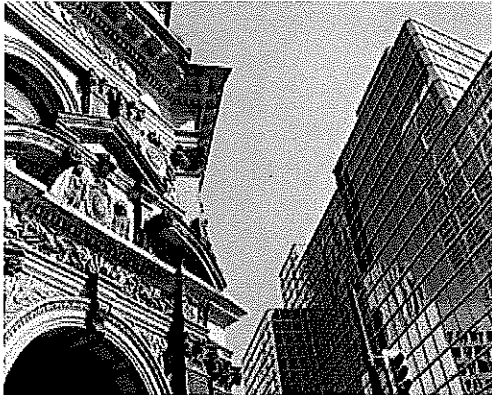


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JEFF THOMAS SHOOTS BIASED IMAGES, AT STEPHEN BULGER.

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**THIS WEEK'S ART STORIES**

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ART STORY

**Jeff Thomas**

**NOW HIGHLIGHTS EXCEPTIONAL SHOWS AT THE CONTACT PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL | LEAH SANDALS**

**WHAT:** Drive-By; at University of Toronto Art Centre (15 King's College Circle, 416-978-1838) to June 28; and Don't Mess With The Pediment, at Stephen Bulger Gallery (1026 Queen West, 416-504-0575) to June 7.

**WHY:** You know those conversations on awesome First Nations art that Kent Monkman kicked off with his paintings and performances at the MOCCA last fall? Ottawa photog Jeff Thomas continues the discussion with photos that recontextualize First Nations imagery in critical contemporary ways. The U of T show is smile-worthy as well as thought-provoking, featuring mini-dioramas of outdated native-cliché plastic toys in an urban landscape. The Bulger exhibit is more subtle and sobering, documenting biased images of Aboriginal people etched in architecture around Toronto. Go see both.

**BUZZ:** Besides having work in the Smithsonian, the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography and the Musée de L'Elysée in France, Thomas is an adept curator, creating powerful group exhibitions on the legacy of residential schools and on First Nations leadership.



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 Rodney Graham, to May 31. Spadina and Lake  
 416-539-9595.

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