

## **VIZART: OUTSIDE THE LINES: Disparate images of distant South ART ON THE EDGE in Atlanta**

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Two very different photo exhibitions give us glimpses of very different disappearing Souths.

Gallery Stokes offers Rebecca Nolan's and Meryl Truett's color shots of the dilapidated rural restaurants, vintage motels and "GOD IS ALIVE" signage that we know, love and see increasingly less often. Housing developments and superstores creep ever deeper into the region's scenic corners.

Fortunately, Nolan and Truett are on the case, capturing moments and mysteries most of us passed right by without noticing.

At Whitespace, Richard Sexton's hauntingly elegant homages to the plantation houses of Louisiana's River Road are part of a systematic documentation of what was. Many of the heartbreakingly ruinous rooms Sexton photographed no longer exist or have been transformed beyond recognition.

The more lighthearted Stokes show has somber moments also, so subtle they might go unnoticed. A billboard memorializing a much-missed deceased woman, situated next to a red-walled Chinese restaurant, is one case in point.

So right now you have two glimpses of an older South in its many faces and races, available for the next few days in a rare, accidental juxtaposition.

And if you're interested in the well-maintained architecture of the historic Inman Park residence of which the Whitespace gallery is a part, you have your chance to see inside when owner Susan Bridges hosts the annual Big Angel Blowout art and craft sale for one weekend only.