

the village
VOICE

NOVEMBER 29—DECEMBER 5, 2006

Art

Best in Show

Recommendations by R.C. Baker

David Bates

The vibrant colors, blocky shapes, and dark outlines in these paintings—dead tree branches slash across an orange sun reflected in black water; quick brushstrokes of purplish gray form a rain squall; an owl's feathers are as geometric and colorful as a Navajo blanket—convey the audacious beauty of the landscape and animals around Southern swamps and lakes. Bates's striking portraits of Katrina survivors capture both stubborn resilience and resigned sadness. *DC Moore, 724 Fifth Ave, 212-247-2111.*