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# Arts

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Galleries The Zenith Gallery has had many homes over the years, and its anniversary show "Fresh" is being hosted at founder Margery Goldberg's salon in Northwest. E2

Books Robert Wilson's new biography sheds a bit more light on a pioneering photographer Mathew Brady. E3

### FRESH

On view through Aug. 31 at Zenith Salon, 1429 Iris St. NW; 202-783-2963; www.zenithgallery.com

### Ken and Julie Girardini

The retrospective of Ken and Julie Girardini's work at Eleven Eleven Sculpture Space is titled "Yours. Mine & Ours" because the two artists make art separately but also run a firm that fashions distinctive household items. Girardini Design is represented in the show by eccentric (and mostly metallic) tables, baskets and vases, as well as an industrial-chic wall divider. The individual creations range from Ken Girardini's digital prints on metal panels to his spouse's exquisite miniatures of boats and houses.

Since they design objects for the home, it's not surprising that both Girardinis include symbolic images of houses in their art. Reduced to an outline of walls and eaves, these structures resemble smaller versions of the "ghost house" that marks where Benja-Franklin's Philadelphia min abode once stood. But Julie Girardini toys brilliantly with the archetype, placing a metal skeleton of a tree inside one ("Tree House") or framing an absent home's contours with crosshatched wires ("Missing House"). These streamlined structures are ingenious and evocative.

Julie Girardini also makes variations on another classic form, the longboat. Working mostly in metal — but forging one boat/house hybrid partly from colored pencils — she defines the ship's swooping form both directly and allusively. Such elegant vessels as "Copper Ribbed Boat" conjure motion as surely as her houses do rootedness.

# KEN AND JULIE GIRARDINI: YOURS, MINE & OURS

On view through Sept. 21 at Eleven Eleven Sculpture Space at 1111 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-783-2963; www.zenithgallery.com

## **Great Streets**

There are more than cityscapes in "Great Streets: The Urban Life of D.C.," the Zenith-curated show at the Washington DC Economic Partnership. The assortment includes Curtis Woody's historical collages, which emphasize African American heritage, and Philip Hazard's handsome American flag sculpture in copper and reclaimed barn wood. It's illuminated by cut-out, back-lit stars and red, white and blue neon squiggles atop the worn surfaces.

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