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## [Hollywood Trend Report: Art Galleries](#)

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May 18, 2009



Hollywood's got a new art hood, and it's located on a grimy strip of Sunset Boulevard. Over the past few years, four galleries have popped up near the [Chateau Marmont](#) and [The Standard](#), but decidedly worlds away in feel from the gentrified Sunset Strip. These galleries are tucked away amid tattoo parlors and pizza joints. The grittier 6000 and 7000 blocks of Sunset ensure a relatively low rent, while the Hollywood zip code raises the cool element up a notch. As LA continues to expand and assert its contemporary art community, it's no surprise that new art neighborhoods keep popping up. Chinatown, Culver City, Downtown, Venice are already established. Now it's Hollywood's turn.

In September 2006, [Michael Benevento](#) opened its doors in Hollywood. He first opened a New York location in SoHo in 2000 before becoming the first kid on the (Sunset) block. Exhibiting emerging and mid-career international artists like Olaf Breuning, Anthony Burdin and Christian Marclay, set the stage for a fresh crop of galleries with experimental exhibitions. Since 2006, galleries in this two block perimeter have been opening at a rate of one per year, and economic woes haven't stunted growth.

[Overduin & Kite](#), which opened in 2007, chose their site due to its strategic location. "Lisa [Overduin] and I have always loved this neighborhood, and we just felt that its position in the center of LA would be accessible to everyone," explains Kristina Kite.

[Khastoo Gallery](#), which opened in November 2008, shows young and established artists from around the world as well integrating work by emerging Middle Eastern artists. Leila Khastoo wanted to create an original and intelligent space to see and discuss art, a description that could also be applied to the program at [Eighth Veil](#), the neighborhood's latest newcomer.

The newly opened gallery and publishing house is dedicated to experimental art projects. Its second show, starting May 15, will display work by New York artists Ryan Schneider and West Lang, whose latest series focus on the landscape and culture of California. In addition to having both art and publishing components, co-directors Nicole Katz and Kane Austin have established an artist-in-residency program. Artists or curators can spend weeks or months developing and overseeing the creation of printed matter, as well as host a rotation of exhibitions and events. Katz, who moved back to LA from New York last fall to open the gallery, says "the charm of this area, which is so hard to find anywhere else in LA, is that Hollywood refuses to clean up. It will always be full of rough characters, seedy motels, and of course strip clubs." Eighth Veil gets its name from its next door neighbor, the Seventh Veil strip club, made famous by the Motley Crue song "Girls, Girls, Girls." The colorful neighborhood references don't stop there: Michael Benevento's space used to be a brothel. This is, after all, Hollywood.



*Eighth Veil Gallery*