Murray Whyte covers visual arts for the *Star*. He's also a feature writer for the Saturday and Sunday Star. He has written about art for the New York Times, Canadian Art magazine, the National Post and many others



Gwen MacGregor @ Jessica Bradley tonight

The multi-skilled Gwen MacGregor opens a show of new work at Jessica Bradley Art + Projects tonight; called "Going," it's a conscious nod to an ongoing fascination of hers: How time becomes manifest in subtle ways in the world around her.

MacGregor has tracked her movements with a GPS for years; a recent project for Mercer Union, with Sandra Rechico, was a personal favourite of mine. Called "Maps in Doubt," the artists traced their walking paths through different cities (Toronto, Montreal, Kassel and Munster) using various media -- pencil, photography, and for Montreal, long, gloopy beads of red and yellow silicon. However they tracked it, there's an anxiety in the futility of it all -- applying a record to something as impermanent and abstract as time, and how it rolls past us.

At JBAP, MacGregor eschews the mapping for images of a freak storm this winter, transforming the landscape, but of course, temporarily; MacGregor seems to be trying to drop anchor in a bottomless current, and the resulting irreconciliable consternation is provocative indeed.

