



WHERE ART THOU?



I recently went to the “Pews You Can Use” event at the NoDa First Friday Gallery Crawl. That night I came to appreciate the art and atmosphere in this funky section of town.

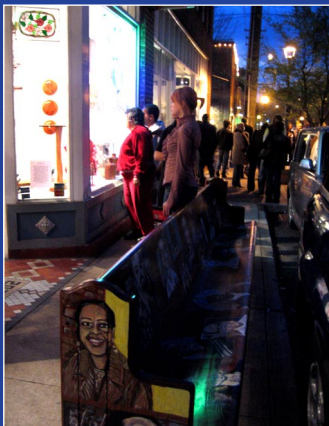
“Pews You Can Use” is a public art display benefiting the NoDa School of the Arts, which teaches youth acting, dance, music, and visual arts.

You have probably seen these decorated pews around Uptown and NoDa. Each of the 30 pews have been given their

own titles and will be at the “Pews on Parade” auction on May 31 from 7-9pm at the Mint Museum on Randolph Road.

I also realized that evening how entertaining it can be just to be in the NoDa area. As we were sauntering down the sidewalks, I was amazed as to how different the atmosphere was compared to being Uptown on a Friday night. I loved it! Usually we find ourselves doing the same things each weekend and often don't realize the “whole new world” we have in NoDa, just a short ride from Center City. It truly is a different culture. Each bar and restaurant has a style of its own which gives you the feeling of being inside art.

We ended our artsy night at the Evening Muse where we listen to a few local artists. If you ever spend a weekend night in NoDa, defi-



nately stop by the Evening Muse. It was there that I took a second to look around and noticed paintings on the walls from local artists, a band entertaining on stage, and people simply enjoying the company of their friends.

The purpose of my column is to inform you of art in Charlotte and after spending an evening in NoDa, I learned that art doesn't always have to be paintings or photographs on the walls. An easy change in routine can be all it takes to bring new variety and excitement to your predictable weekends. Enjoy what's around you.

Other Art Events This Month

Historic Southend Gallery Crawl

First Friday of each month
6pm-8pm
www.historicsouthend.com

1st & 3rd Fridays Gallery Crawl

NoDa's Unique Street Scene
6pm-9:30pm
www.NoDa.org

Beatles Tribute Night

SPIRIT SQUARE
Saturday, May 12th
7pm-11pm
Tickets - \$12
www.blumenthalcenter.org

Evening Muse

Beatles After-party

Saturday, May 12th
11pm-?
FREE
www.eveningmuse.com

Pews on Parade Auction

Thursday, May 31st
Mint Museum on Randolph Rd.
7-9pm

By: Laura Vossberg