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Originally published Friday, February 22, 2013 at 5:03 AM

Prographica's 'Bleak Beauty': fine art from the 'unpromising'

In 'Bleak Beauty: Artists Who Find Beauty in the Unpromising,' Seattle art gallery Prographica showcases five gifted artists whose treatment of ordinary or abject subject matter takes startling and even seductive turns. Running through March 9, 2013.

By [Michael Upchurch](#)
Seattle Times arts writer

Seattle artist Norman Lundin, a University of Washington professor of art emeritus, has created something quite special with his Madrona gallery, Prographica/Fine Works on Paper.

The small group shows he curates there have thematic unity and vitality, yet also show his participating artists to their best advantage.

Prographica's latest exhibit, "Bleak Beauty: Artists Who Find Beauty in the Unpromising," is one of Lundin's finest selections. It features five artists (three of them locals) who explore realities that may be off-putting or so much a part of our surroundings that they're often neglected in art.

As Lundin notes, "A kind of beauty can be found in work with unpromising subject matter."

The photographs of Dianne Kornberg have pride

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COURTESY OF PROGRAPHICA

David Ballin's charcoal on paper "Seedling."