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# CityPaper

WASHINGTON'S FREE WEEKLY

WASHINGTON

VOL. 20, NO. 8 FEB. 25—MARCH 2, 2000

TO MARCH 15



## Randy Asplund & Scott Hutchison

Though you could probably find Randy Asplund's works for sale in the Science Fiction Collectibles section of eBay, they have rarely been exhibited in galleries. Originally made for commercial purposes—posters, magazines, and products spun off from *Star Trek*, *Battlestar Galactica*, and *Dune*—Asplund's pieces have been restored to his original "artistic vision" for their first gallery showing in D.C. His quirky paintings include depictions of the *U.S.S. Enterprise*, a Cylon raider, and a Klingon battleship—all rendered from an idealistic, '50s-ish viewpoint. Space, in Asplund's work, is colorful, fun, and full of possibility. As the artist comments on "the mark of a successful nebula" in one wall text: "You should be able to imagine all sorts of images." In *Seven Days on the Moon* (pictured), a family of lunar tourists sport fashionable space suits as Earth glows bright and healthy in the distance. There are no signs of Armageddon, no hurtling meteorites; these folks are on the moon purely for enter-

tainment. Although Scott Hutchison has also illustrated various sci-fi publications, his work contrasts strikingly with Asplund's. Hutchison's monochromatic, moody, and macabre images express inner searching and a fascination with the human body in—literally—its barest form. Naked bodies—some skeletal, metal, and robot-like—stretch across Hutchison's compositions with the artist's black, blue, and gray palette creating an atmosphere of somber introspection. Check out these refreshing views of inner and outer space from noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, to Wednesday, March 15, at the Fraser Gallery, 1054 31st St. NW. Free. (202) 298-6450. (Liz Eckstein)