Exploring Light 'n' Bugs

By Jerry Cullum For the Journal Constitution

Oliver Smith's oils on wood at first seem like a more organic and monochromatic version of Sean Scully. A second look, however, reveals that Smith gets his stripe effects by hacking deeply into the built up surface, which has a remarkable number of shades and tones composing what only seems to be a rough simplicity. The more you examine these paintings, the greater your admiration grows.