

# The Boston Globe

## Salesmanship

By Cate McQuaid

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Painter Chris Hauck, with a show at Gallery XIV, is a Warhol wannabe. His works, supported by an occasionally clever installation, critique and celebrate consumerism.



*Cereal Killer*, Chris Hauck  
Gallery XIV

He has one gimmick, which is to paint people in silhouettes and fill them with bar codes. This illustrates how we all have become commodities, either to corporations or the media.

Occasionally the idea comes off as sharp and layered, as in “Cereal Killer,” in which the missing girl stamped on the side of a milk carton shows up as a bar code - a darkly comic commentary on how some missing children, such as Elizabeth Smart, can grip the nation’s attention. More often, it’s just a lame joke, as in one in which a bar-coded pope showers blessings on a big jar of Miracle Whip.

The installation includes a sale rack, with Hauck’s studies on clothes hangers in plastic bags. The gallery staged a fashion show last week, with, among other things, a dress made from Target shopping bags and a corset emblazoned with golden arches. Almost everything in the gallery has a price tag. The installation adds meat to the show, which is otherwise pretty slim.