

# GUSHER: OIL FLOW SURGES AFTER BP REMOVES WELL CAP 4

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## Nor Any a Drop to Drink

New video works at Conner play with nature's brute force

### Galleries

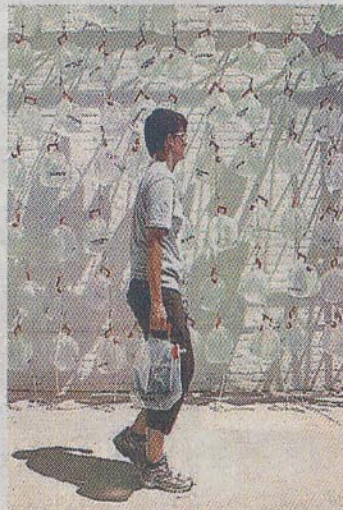
The windows of Conner Contemporary are swaddled in heavy curtains. A sign on the door informs visitors that, yes, it is in fact open — the window treatment is just there to turn the gallery into a theater for the video works by New York artist Janet Biggs and Washington-based artist Mary Coble.

Biggs has taken over the front room with a massive screen against the wall, showing "Fade to White."

The 12-1/2-minute video traces an Arctic landscape, following a crew member of a two-masted schooner as he works on the boat or kayaks through the ice.

"Her work is muscular in a sense, as she's doing these things as well," says gallery owner Leigh Conner. Biggs pairs her romantic shots with sorrowful music by John Kelly, adding a melancholic tone to the exploration of the stark landscape.

Coble shows her own stamina, though of a different sort. Her videos depict her standing on, (repeatedly) falling off or swimming around a floating dock on a lake. But the most challenging work by



Mary Coble's work deals with water as a life-giving force and as a privilege.

Coble is "Source," an installation and performance piece in which she collected 200 water samples from the Washington area in plastic containers, hanging each with tags of their corresponding address from a metal structure in the gallery's courtyard. Since she erected the piece in May, the water has changed, discolored and grown tiny critters in some cases.

Such evolution stands as a reminder to what sustains D.C. communities and what is often taken for granted. DANIELLE O'STEEN

● **Conner Contemporary**, 1358 Florida Ave. NE; through July 3, free; 202-588-8750, [connercontemporary.com](http://connercontemporary.com).

### hot tickets

#### Belle & Sebastian

DAR Constitution Hall, Oct. 14, \$38.50, 800-551-7328.



'**Yo Gabba Gabba**' Jiffy Lube Live, Aug. 28, \$35.50-\$55.50, 800-551-7328.

**Jimmy Buffett** Jiffy Lube Live, Sept. 2, \$36-\$136, 800-551-7328.

**Craig Ferguson** Warner Theatre, Oct. 16, \$35-\$55, 800-551-7328.

'**Avenue Q**' Lansburgh Theatre, July 15-Aug. 15, \$75-\$85, 202-547-1122.

'**Dreamgirls**' National Theatre, July 28-Aug. 8, \$55-\$95, 800-447-7400.