

SHOWSTOPPERS
DZINE



BANG!
OCTOBER 10, 2007–
JANUARY 11, 2008
CONTEMPORARY
ARTS SOCIETY
ROME, ITALY

If the opening of your art exhibition is highlighted and accompanied by a DJ boat and cocktail party, and said DJ's Solal and Filip Wauters are battling, you must be in Europe. The United States just doesn't have the genius to pull off DJ boats. For Chicago-based, Puerto-Rican born, and internationally renowned artist Dzine (pronounced "de-sign"), the Romans pulled out all the stops to make sure his artwork's stay with the Contemporary Art Society was a memorable one.

Perhaps Dzine's career (born Carlos Rolon) need be explained: not only an internationally exhibiting painter, he also owns a record label that produces experimental DJs from

around the world. His involvement with this particular genre lends itself to the art he creates, where large canvases and murals are defined by morphing psychedelic colors and shapes that appear to be born out of musical inspiration. The former graffiti artist turned fine artist's murals have shown in Paris, New York, Tokyo, Vienna, and his native Puerto Rico. And Eric Clapton collects his work. Hell, he was the only Chicago-based artist in the 2007 *Venice Biennale*. Dzine is big time, to say the least.

A main features of the *Bang* show is the *Dnipro*, a custom ski boat turned lowrider that Dzine, inspired by a stay in Kiev, Ukraine, created

as part of his piece in the Ukraine Pavilion of the *Venice Biennale*. It's the perfect example of Dzine's mastery, fusing different cultural elements and artistic innovations together to make something truly inspiring. —*Evan Pricco*

All images courtesy the Artist, Scai the Bathhouse/Shiraishi Contemporary, Tokyo, and Contemporary Arts Society, Roma

Dnipro
1977 Correct Craft Ski Boat
Nine TV screens, 22 speakers with lights, eight amps, a Chevy chrome engine with neon lighting, original 1963 chrome trim and side mirrors from a Chevy Impala, custom bucket seats, ostrich leather interior with religious fabric, state-of-the-art Pioneer CD/DJ equipment with Alpine touch screen videos, a laser light show, and smoke machine.



Untitled (Theory of the Big Bang)
 Acrylic, 24 karat gold leaf, and glass
 beads on canvas mounted on wood
 40" x 40"
 2007



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