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"In The Galleries" - Arts & Style

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IN THE GALLERIES



ANTHONY PALLIPARAMBIL JR./COURTESY OF HILLYER ART SPACE

"A Girl Just Can't Go to Sing Sing With a Green Face" by Anthony Palliparambil Jr. is part of "reIMAGINE" at Hillyer Art Space.

Visible Iceland

Harshly beautiful and irresistibly exotic, Iceland is always ready for its close-up — or for its wide-angle shot. Five photographers, three of them natives, explore the country in "Visible Iceland," at Hillyer Art Space. D.C. photographer Jillian Watkins, the show's organizer, contributes unexpectedly sunny views of both built and natural environments, while San Francisco's Elena Sheehan highlights impossible blues in a gray-and-white world.

Katrín Elvarsdóttir, the only artist now living in Iceland, and Utah-based Svavar Jonatansson have taken to the road, with

Elvarsdóttir depicting trailers in seemingly hostile locations, and Jonatansson documenting both sides of a 900-mile circular route around the island. Los Angeles-based Fridgeir Helgason shows such lonely structures as a saltbox house and a rusted playground slide in the misty expanses; the manmade objects make the landscape look all the more untamable.

Also at Hillyer, Anthony Palliparambil Jr. is showing photos (not always his) that he has manipulated on an iPad. The images in "#reIMAGINE" — all square, mostly small — are characterized by bright, unnatural colors and hard-edged, geometric patterns. Four "Sun Sets" suggest Jasper Johns and Kenneth Noland targets, but the pictures more often recall such early-20th-century art movements as futurism and constructivism. These days, of course, futuristic effects can be achieved with the touch of a button, which in itself is sort of futuristic.

Visible Iceland and Anthony Palliparambil Jr.: #reIMAGINE On view through Nov. 29 at Hillyer Art Space, 9 Hillyer Ct. NW. 202-338-0325. www.hillyerartspace.org.