

# CULTURE CORNER



Suburbia meets modern art in the works of Duane Hanson on display at the **Whitney Museum of American Art** (945 Madison Avenue at 75th

St.) through March 21. In *A Survey of His Work from the '30s to the '90s*, visitors can take a peek at themselves as seen through the eyes of Hanson and rendered in life-size polyvinyl acetate. More than 25 of the sculptures are placed on the third floor of the Museum, looking vaguely out of place amid the typical museum-goers. Included are representations of construction workers on a lunch break, a retired couple in bright vacation wear, a weight lifter, a cowboy, an overweight man sitting on a lawn mower and two children playing a board game.

The work of Ben Shahn, a Lithuanian immigrant to Brooklyn, is grounded in the images of his working-class neighborhood with touches of symbolism and exaggerated shapes. On display at the **Jewish Museum** (1109 Fifth Avenue at 92nd Street) through March 7, *Common Man, Mythic Vision: The Paintings of Ben Shahn* features Shahn's turn toward the symbolic rendering of biblical and mythological themes, as well as allegorical works that universalized events of World War II and its aftermath.

Ever feel like someone's watching you?

It may be true. On display at the **International Center of Photography** (1130 Fifth Avenue at 94th St.) through March 7, *Intimate City: The Photographs of Thomas Roma* offers various perspectives on New York life. Through the lens, the mundane becomes surreal, mysterious or forlorn. These are not your average "Kodak moments." Roma's projects on display include: "Higher Ground," photographs taken in and around elevated trains; "Come Sunday," a study of African-American churches; "Found in Brooklyn," neighborhood studies that pay homage to Brooklyn's diversity; "Sunset Park," photographs depicting the drama of life revolving around a neighborhood pool in Brooklyn; and "Court Portraits," a work in progress that consists of photographs of people in the corridors of the Brooklyn Criminal Courthouse.

If the one millionth viewing of *Titanic* is about to play on your VCR, take a break from Jack and Rose for a bit and get a glimpse of what life was really like aboard luxury ocean liners. The **South Street Seaport's** Whitman Gallery (209 Water Street) features the ongoing exhibit *Traveling in Style: 20th-Century Ocean Liners*. With models, posters and ephemera, the exhibit evokes the glamorous era of transatlantic oceangoing travel. ♦

Admission to these exhibits is free with your Culture Card and Company ID.

