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Fanciful to Figurative to Wryly Inscrutable

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THE BEST IN GROUP SHOWS

'Post No Bills'

That other place is also where "Post No Bills," a floor-to-ceiling roundup of artist-made posters at White Columns, stands. Since the 60's, innovative poster design has been closely associated with politics and rock, and the association continues here in an all-text, all-opinion piece titled "The Advantages of Another Bush Presidency," by the GuerrillaGirlsBroadband, and in Scott King's Valentine pink Cher-as-Che homage.

But much of the rest of the work in the show - organized by White Columns's new director, Matthew Higgs - doesn't adhere to those categories. The artist Steven Shearer fills a whole wall with posters devoted to 1970's fanzines, retro-psychedelia and death-metal bands, subjects that he has explored and archived in other forms for years. In this case, the poster turns from a public to a private medium, an independent work of art tinged with the strain of obsessiveness found in so much current work.