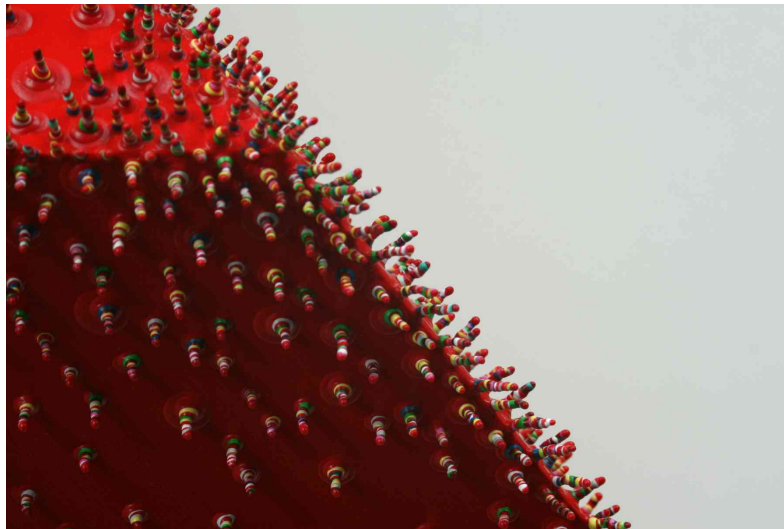


## Dragon Street Doings

By Charissa N. Terranova

Pan American Art Projects inaugurates the fall gallery season in its new location on Dragon Street with Charlotte Smith's latest paintings.



Charlotte Smith, *Pinocchio (Detail)*, 2007, acrylic on metal

Ms. Smith is a master at building up paint on the surface but in unexpected fashion. She recasts the tradition of globby, thick impasto in terms of tight, multicolored bumps of paint made from tiny stacks of drips.

The small, brightly painted stalactites in her work have evolved over the years. They began as rhythmic dots that, in playing on the surface of the canvas, emphasized a painting's flatness through contrast. They were ancillary, almost decorative dots dancing on the tradition of the painted plane. Now, the drips and dots are autonomous. Ms. Smith has shifted to modeling objects.

Dotted and speckled with nodules, *Pinocchio* is a metal rhombus painted in bright red. In pastel pink, *Conversation* is two panels opening down the center. Along the curving edges of each side, flagellum-like drips of red paint almost touch.