
Living Arts

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Turning a worldly eye on innocence

By Cate McQuaid
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Rona Pondick knows how to get under your skin. Her work at the Yezerki Gallery teases and insinuates, tying innocence directly to all the things we want to protect the innocent from. "Nipple Swing" hangs on long pink ribbons.

Galleries The swing itself looks like the spread legs of a toddler, dressed in lacy tights and patent-leather shoes. Balanced in the center, where the legs meet, is the nipple of a baby's bottle. The interchange between childhood and adult sexuality here is so quick and multilayered it's dizzying; all the images are baby-related, but they conjure up narratives of molestation and oral sex. They also refer to nourishment, and to a child's unself-conscious delight in physical pleasure.