



THE GREAT GOD PAN IS DEAD

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Big Frame Up in Austin
Robert Boyd

East Austin has become a locus for Austin's art scene. Of course there is [EAST](#), the East Austin studio tour, but studios are the loam out of which other things grow--galleries, artists spaces, etc. [Frame](#) to me seemed to be about promoting the next stage of the evolution of an art district. Some institutions have sprung up, and to help people realize this, they join their voices [like the citizens of Whoville](#), shouting "We are here!" The four participants were [Tiny Park](#), [MASS](#), [Big Medium](#) and [Co-Lab](#). What's interesting is that this grouping includes a commercial gallery, a non-profit and a couple of artist-run spaces.



My favorite show was at Tiny Park, my last stop on my Frame Tour. It was a show by [Joel Ross](#) and [Jason Creps](#). Their work consists mainly of signs that they have made and left someplace. This is Ross's part of the process. The residue of the work are photos of the signs in situ (taken by Creps, who is also a commercial photographer. He did the cover photo for Neko Case's album *Middle Cyclone*.)

In addition to the photographs, the show consists of signs and word pieces. Their power is somewhat diminished being in a gallery setting (instead of just being out in public), but Ross makes up for that by being so amusing and clever.

Still, the problem with these in the gallery setting is that they seem like clever one-liners of a sort. It's only out in the world that these things gain power. So Ross did an installation. He did it at the studio of [OK Mountain](#) over on Cesar Chavez, so he wasn't strictly removing it from an institutional setting. Nonetheless, it must have given people whiplash as they drove by it at night.