

GALLERY GOING **GARY MICHAEL DAULT**

Joseph Davidson at Tatar Gallery
\$2,000-\$6,000 (U.S.) Until Nov. 12,
183 Bathurst St., Suite 200,
Toronto; 416-360-3822

Los Angeles artist Joseph Davidson makes sculptural tableaus out of Scotch tape. Yes, it's exhausting to think about (gallery owner Judith Tatar says it takes him 10 or 12 hours to fabricate every one of the tape-formed vessels that comprise the still-life-like groups of assorted, pearlescent faux bottles and jars that sit on wall-mounted shelves). But Davidson is clearly one of those artists undaunted — and probably even stimulated — by meticulousness.

His little groups of tape vessels and objects — which have the quiet authority of the painted jars and bottles in a painting by, say, Giorgio Morandi — possess a charming, other-worldly luminescence, as if they were wine bottles, unguent jars and salt-and-pepper shakers from the moon. Tatar says he watches TV and oversees his infant son while he makes them. It must be this kind of genial absorption in these deftly demanding works that makes them seem innocent instead of obsessive, ephemeral instead of superficial.