EAST SACRAM McKINLEY PARIVER PARK ELMHURST TAHOE PARK

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IT TAKES TWO

When you first see the art pieces on display at b. sakata garo gallery in midtown, you might think they look like the work of two minds on one surface. Well, you'd be rightthe pieces are the products of a

collaboration between artists and close friends Robert-Jean Ray and Lou Bermingham, which makes the title of their exhibition, "2Thoughts," all the more apt.

When the two first met at b. sakato garo in 2009, neither knew what was in store for them six years later. Ray specializes in extremely small, intricate, mixed-media collage pieces that are the size of matchboxes, while Bermingham creates large, gestural abstract paintings that convey the vastness and wonder of the universe.

When the two decided to collaborate this year, there were only a few parameters: After agreeing on a size format, the artists selected surfaces such as heavy stock paper and wood of various sizes and shapes (square, rectangle, horizontal, vertical) and split each in half. Each artist then created an art piece on the left or right, top or bottom, then shipped the completed halves to one another and responded to each of the contributions. (They later discovered they were also both listening to jazz while working. If that's not a case of great minds thinking alike, we don't know what is.) The results are stunning and not to be missed.

"2Thoughts" will be on exhibit Aug. 4-29. For more information, call 447-4276 or go to bsakatagaro.com The gallery is at 923 20th St.

