

ARTS & PERFORMANCE

GALLERIES

By Cate McQuaid
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Life in a cell

In recent years, Wendy Richmond has been traveling a lot. She lives in San Diego, and her parents live here. She often found herself waiting in airports. She took to using her cellphone to record others waiting and loitering. She has assembled those short videos of private moments in public spaces into small video works, now up at Carroll and Sons.

Each piece, no longer than a minute and a half, features multiple images, sometimes assembled together in a grid, around a particular site, such as the airport, a lobby, a subway, or a museum. Given the thumbnail size of cellphone video, these require intimate viewing. Richmond pulls you in with her sophisticated sense of architectural and urban patterns, which serve as a stage for people quietly absorbed in their own thoughts (or cellphone conversations).

These works are surprisingly rich; it's easy to dismiss cellphone video as throwaway, but Richmond makes art of it, art that's visually compelling and strangely filled with pathos.

WENDY RICHMOND:
Public Privacy

At: Carroll and Sons,
450 Harrison Ave., through
Feb. 14. 617-482-2477,
www.carrollandsons.net
