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GALLERY**THE BLOG** 05/27/2010 01:00 pm ET | Updated May 25, 2011

In New York: Gallery Openings This Weekend



By ARTINFO

ARTINFO presents a guide to the most interesting gallery openings in New York each week.

Everything feels topsy-turvy in New York right now. The Whitney has voted to move downtown, and its current home may be leased to the Met. Marina Abramovic is getting ready to end her run. (How will MoMA's atrium look with the artist absent?) Julie Mehretu is showing bracing new paintings at the Guggenheim. Even London is looking peculiar: Ernesto Neto is gearing up to provide a Surrealist installation at the Hayward Gallery.

This week's openings provide some perhaps equally unusual opportunities. The Austrians are hosting an exhibition themed around the novel *1984* at their cultural forum in midtown, Jack Shainman is showing **Jonathan Seliger's** enormous reconstructions of everyday objects, and James Hyde is repainting photos of earlier paintings by Stuart Davis. It's a confusing time: as good a time as any to go out and see some new art.

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Jonathan Seliger, "Spoils"

Jack Shainman Gallery, 513 West 20th Street

Opening Thursday, May 27, 6-8 p.m.

Viewed from afar, Jonathan Seliger's enamel on bronze sculptures have the look of Minimalist sculptures: large cubes, cones, and totems. Up close, though, they're revealed as milk cartons and grocery bags, enlarged to sometimes-gargantuan sizes. Like Robert Therrien, he seems determined to show us how strange and wonderful the objects we use every day just may be, though his objects are more specific than Therrien's: the milk is America's choice, the shopping bags Hermès. They're crowd-pleasing sculptures, to put it another way, and perfect first stop when jumping off the High Line park (whose north end stops just outside Shainman's gallery).



James Hyde, "Stuart Davis Group"

The Boiler, 191 North 4th Street (Brooklyn, NY)

Opening Friday, May 28, 7-10 p.m.

James Hyde picked up a heavy house-painting roller, coated it with the heavy acrylic used by sign painters, and reworked photographic prints of details of two works by the early American abstractionist Stuart Davis. The four resulting works push Davis's 1939 and 1940 paintings closer to the hard-edge, geometric abstractions that he would venture into later in his career. The magisterial Boiler space (a towering, old boiler room) is also just a short walk from McCarren Park, a perfect place to lounge post-opening during these cool summer nights.

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