

Jeff Koons

Split-Rocker at Rockefeller Center
Organized by Public Art Fund
and Tishman Speyer

Helen Frankenthaler

Composing with Color: Paintings 1962–1963
September 11–October 18, 2014
980 Madison Avenue New York

Dan Colen

Miracle Paintings
September 2–October 18, 2014
555 West 24th Street New York

www.gagosian.com

Gagosian Gallery

Saul Steinberg

100th Anniversary Exhibition
32 East 57th Street / Through October 18

Paul Graham

Does Yellow Run Forever?
510 West 25th Street / Through October 4

David Hockney

The Arrival of Spring
508 West 25th Street / Through November 1

Fred Wilson

Sculptures, Paintings, and Installations: 2004–2014
534 West 25th Street
OPENS TODAY

PACE

Gems Among the Ruins

The Governors Island Art Fair is not your average art fair. Now in its seventh year, it's a scrappy, low-budget event organized by a group of artists operating under the name 4 Heads.

KEN JOHNSON

ART REVIEW

Works by 100 artists are displayed not in corporate white booths but in the rooms of four late-19th-century brick houses on Colonels' Row where Army officers used to live. Each artist was given a room to use.

Uninhabited since 1996, the buildings are structurally sound but dilapidated, with lots of flaking paint. You might think such an environment would be distracting, but it's not. A haunted-house ambience enhances the adventurous feeling visitors get in perusing the show. They can wander from first-floor living rooms to second-story bedrooms to attics with slanting ceilings.

The synergy between the funky old rooms and the artworks occupying them is fortunate, because most of the art on view isn't very exciting by itself. There's way too much indifferent, amateur- and student-level work, as well as semiprofessional kitsch. If 4 Heads wants to make its show a destination for discerning art lovers, it needs better quality control.

That said, there are good things to be discovered. The video artist Rachel Rampleman is certainly ready for prime time. One of her three pieces is a com-

Governors Island Art Fair Governors Island

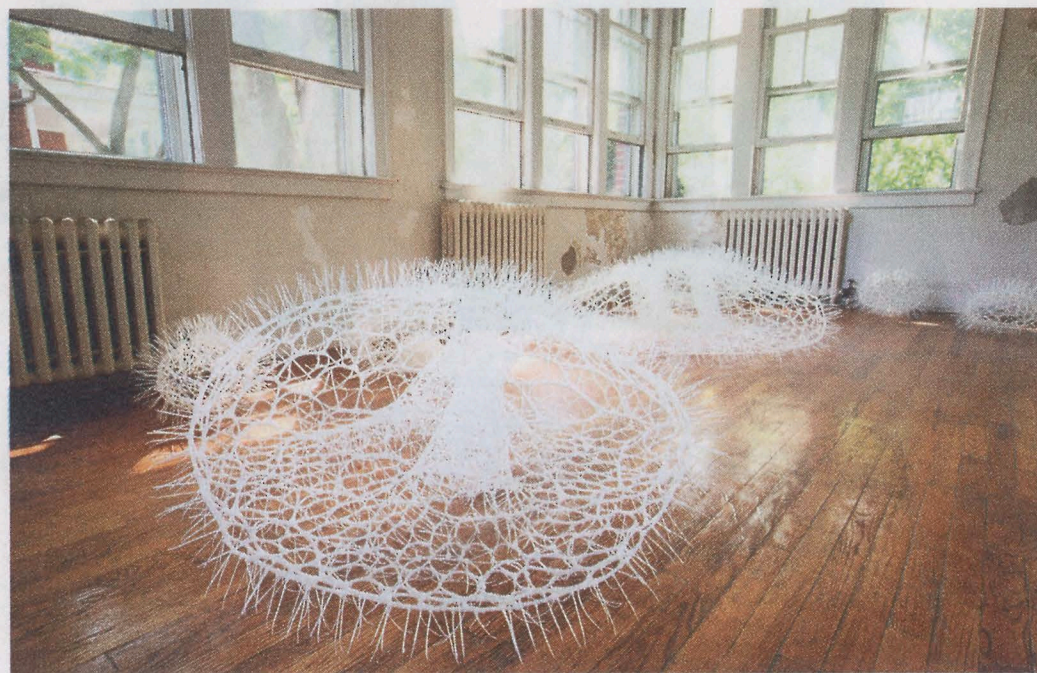
pilation of film clips of female bodybuilders posing and hefting live men instead of weights. Shown on an old, portable television in a darkened room, it exudes a funny weirdness.

Two projections in another room are equally intriguing. Her wonderfully bizarre "Bellmer Burlesque" features the legs and pelvises of female tap-dancers in action. The film is split horizontally into mirroring upper and lower halves, which turns the dancers into monstrous figures with legs going both up and down. In "Busby Berkeley 2.0," Ms. Rampleman has created abstract, psychedelic variations on a clip of a dance routine from a black-and-white Busby Berkeley movie to optically gripping effect.

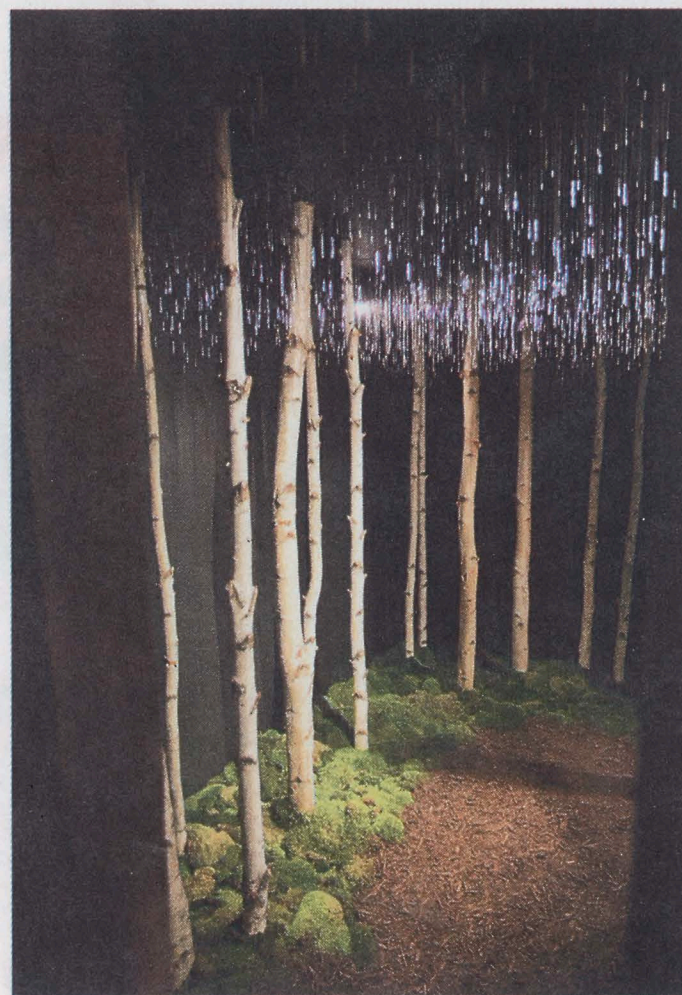
Another accomplished video maker is Hwayong Jung, who creates computer-animated films of densely layered, symmetrically flowing organic and geological patterns. Presented in deep, laptop-size frames with mirrored inner sides, they are hypnotic and hallucinatory.

Also impressive is Sam Metcalf's "black box," an eight-foot-tall enclosure with transparent walls. Top-to-bottom Venetian blinds controlled by motion detectors close when viewers approach, allowing only glimpses of a large, live fern inside. It's a

The Governors Island Art Fair continues Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 28 on Colonels' Row, Governors Island; 212-673-9074, 4heads.org.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY AGATON STROM FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



Clockwise from above, Sui Park's "Thought Bubbles," made up of plastic cable ties; a gerbil at home in an installation by Daniel Baltzer and Mikel Glass; and Chaney Lane Trotter's forest glade, all in houses on Colonels' Row.



teasing metaphor about seeing and knowing.

Hao Ni is another exceptionally inventive sculptor. "Night II" has glittering drops of mineral oil slowly descending along myriad lengths of stretched monofilament to a pool of black liquid within a ramshackle wooden framework. A pile of smooth, black pebbles; a black severed hand; and a piece of yellow fabric frozen in a billowing state add to the surrealistic mystery. Alberto Giacometti's early masterpiece "The Palace at 4 a.m." comes to mind.

In a walk-in-closet-size space, Chaney Lane Trotter has created a magical forest glade with real birch tree trunks planted in a bed of moss. Speakers play the sounds of rain and thunder, and flashing electric lights mimic lightning.

An oddly ethereal series of

staged photographs by Sinan Tuncay imagines the bittersweet aftermath of a "reverse circumcision" ceremony in a ballroom with pale blue walls, a confetti-strewn floor, white plastic chairs and the artist alone in a royal, white outfit like a sad clown. The series is pointedly titled "Whole."

Jackie Mock produces faux-antique sculptural works resembling artifacts displayed in an old-fashioned history museum. Many are comically self-reflexive. "The Entire Life of This Pen" has a ballpoint pen surrounded by the dense scribbling that used up its ink. A framed flake of thick paint is titled "A Piece of the Wall You're Looking At."

A robotic sculpture by Aaron Taylor Kuffner updates the traditional genre of Indonesian gamelan music in which percussive instruments like gongs and xylophones are played in ensembles.

Here, bronze Balinese gongs are hit by motorized mallets creating complex rhythms and subtle harmonies. It's fascinating to watch and absorbing to hear.

Among other notable works are Sui Park's large, luminous egg-shaped sculptures made of interconnected, white plastic zip ties; Jessica Beckwith's mystical theater consisting of revolving light reflectors and a video projection of a whirling dervish; and, by Mikel Glass and Daniel Baltzer, steam-punk-style sculptures connected by translucent tubes through which scurrying live gerbils can be seen intermittently. In the kitchen of one house, Becky Brown has filled the refrigerator, dishwasher and other appliances with overflowing quantities of metal and plastic junk, all spray-painted white or almond. The machines seem to be vomiting as if in a bulimic's nightmare.



CHANG W. LEE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tears for a Husband, 13 Years Later

At the south memorial pool at the World Trade Center on Thursday, a woman whose husband died on Sept. 11, 2001. Page A26.

Air Bag Flaw, Long Known, Led to Recalls

By HIROKO TABUCHI

An air bag exploded in a Honda Accord in 2004 in Alabama, shooting out metal fragments and injuring the car's driver. At a loss to explain the incident, Honda and its Japanese air bag supplier deemed it "an anomaly" and did not issue a recall or seek the involvement of federal safety regulators.

Today, more than 14 million vehicles have been recalled by 11 automakers over rupture risks involving air bags manufactured by the supplier, Takata. That is about five times the number of vehicles recalled this year by General Motors for its deadly ignition switch defect.

Two deaths and more than 30 injuries have been linked to ruptures in Honda vehicles, and complaints received by regulators about various automakers blame Takata air bags for at least 139 injuries, including 37 people who reported air bags that ruptured or spewed shrapnel or chemicals. In one incident in December 2009, a Honda Accord driven by Gurjit Rathore, 33, hit a mail truck in Richmond, Va. Her air bag exploded, propelling shrapnel into her neck and chest, and she bled to death in front of her three children, according to a lawsuit filed by her family.



Shrapnel from a burst air bag.

Ray Rice Is an Outlier: Most Suspects Play On

By KAREN CROUSE

Brett Myers, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, was charged with assaulting his wife on a Boston street in 2006 after witnesses said he struck her in the face and pulled her hair. The Phillies put him on the mound as their starting pitcher about 36 hours later.

Last October, the goaltender Semyon Varlamov of the National Hockey League's Colorado Avalanche was arrested after his girlfriend told the police he had kicked her to the floor and stomped on her chest. After spending the night in jail, Varla-

mov was back in goal the next game.

In late August, defensive lineman Ray McDonald of the National Football League's San Francisco 49ers was arrested after an altercation with his pregnant fiancée, who the police said had visible injuries. He started in the 49ers' season-opening victory Sunday.

Across professional sports, it is hardly unusual for athletes to be involved in domestic abuse cases, but seldom have they faced meaningful punishment from their employers. Teams and leagues have generally demurred, noting that there is a presumption of innocence and

that it is not their role to supersede the criminal justice system.

But the emergence this week of a video showing Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice punching his fiancée has raised fresh questions about whether sports leagues should take more responsibility for domestic violence involving their athletes, and impose harsher penalties when presented with compelling evidence.

"The other leagues had better be paying attention," said Ruth Glenn, the interim executive director of the National Coalition

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Bunny Mellon's Keen Eye Is a Boon to Sotheby's

By CAROL VOGEL

UPPERVILLE, Va. — Few people have ever visited Oak Spring Farms, the grand home here of Rachel Lambert Mellon, better known as Bunny. If they had, they would have seen a Picasso, unframed like a flea market find, above the living room fireplace. Upstairs, a still life by van Gogh hung above her bathtub. Antique porcelains — cabbages, asparagus, artichokes — were artfully arranged on practically every surface.

Mrs. Mellon was the matriarch of an American dynasty whose fortune and art holdings rivaled that of the Fricks, Carnegies and Morgans. But perhaps most notably, she was a passionate collector of a bygone era. She didn't pay attention to what was in fashion; she didn't think about future financial returns. Instead, she



Arabs Give Tepid Support To U.S. Fight Against ISIS

Leading Allies Avoid Specific Commitments — Mistrust Hampers Obama Effort

By ANNE BARNARD and DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Many Arab governments grumbled quietly in 2011 as the United States left Iraq, fearful it might fall deeper into chaos or Iranian influence. Now, the United States is back and getting a less than enthusiastic welcome, with leading allies like Egypt, Jordan and Turkey all finding ways on Thursday to avoid specific commitments to President Obama's expanded military campaign against Sunni extremists.

As the prospect of the first American strikes inside Syria crackled through the region, the mixed reactions underscored the challenges of a new military intervention in the Middle East, where 13 years of chaos, from Sept. 11 through the Arab Spring revolts, have deepened political and sectarian divisions and increased mistrust of the United States on all sides.

"As a student of terrorism for the last 30 years, I am afraid of that formula of 'supporting the American effort,'" said Diaa Rashwan, a scholar at the Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, a government-funded policy organization in Cairo. "It is very dangerous."

The tepid support could further complicate the already complex task Mr. Obama has laid out for himself in fighting the extremist Islamic State in Iraq and Syria: He must try to confront the group without aiding Syria's president, Bashar al-Assad, or appearing to side with Mr. Assad's Shiite allies, Iran and the militant group Hezbollah, against discontented Sunnis across the Arab world.

While Arab nations allied with the United States vowed on Thursday to "do their share" to fight ISIS and issued a joint communiqué supporting a broad strategy, the underlying tone was one of reluctance. The government perhaps most eager to join a coalition against ISIS was that of Syria, which Mr. Obama had already ruled out as a partner for what he described as terrorizing its citizens.

Syria's deputy foreign minister, Fayssal Mekdad, told NBC News that Syria and the United States were "fighting the same enemy," terrorism, and that his

government had "no reservations" about airstrikes as long as the United States coordinated with it. He added, "We are ready to talk."

Others were less than forthcoming. The foreign minister of Egypt — already at odds with Mr. Obama over the American decision to withhold some aid after the Egyptian military's ouster last year of the elected president — complained that Egypt's hands were full with its own fight against "terrorism," referring to the Islamist opposition.

In Jordan, the state news agency reported that in a meeting about the extremists on Wednesday

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Weary of War, But Favoring Airstrike Plan

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A few months ago, Kevin Kinard, a 55-year-old utility worker here, had barely heard of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. But when the Sunni militant group beheaded a second American journalist, Mr. Kinard clicked on an Internet video of the execution — and lost sleep for two nights.

"Nobody wants war," he said, taking a break from some underground streetlight switch work near the State Capitol here to explain why he believes ISIS must be destroyed, and why America must take the lead. "It costs too much money; it costs lives. But we are protecting ourselves. We can't turn a blind eye."

A half-mile away, in an artsy neighborhood of thrift shops and cafes, Mary Hess, 57, sat amid stacks of rare volumes at the Midtown Scholar Bookstore and offered the opposite view.

"What possible purpose for America," asked Ms. Hess, a caterer, "would it serve to get us more in debt and to fight in Iraq

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U.S. Pins Hope on Syrian Rebels With Loyalties All Over the Map

This article is by Ben Hubbard, Eric Schmitt and Mark Mazzetti.

BEIRUT, Lebanon — President Obama's determination to train Syrian rebels to serve as ground troops against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria leaves the United States dependent on a diverse group riven by infighting, with no shared leadership and

alongside extremists like the Nusra Front, Al Qaeda's affiliate in Syria.

"You are not going to find this neat, clean, secular rebel group that respects human rights and that is waiting and ready because they don't exist," said Aron Lund, a Syria analyst who edits the Syria in Crisis blog for the Carnegie Endowment for International