

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART

MAY 3, 2010



Edward Koren's drawing "Blood Sound (After Paul Zweig), 1985," in his show at Columbia University's Wallach Art Gallery.

MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM

Fifth Ave. at 82nd St. (212-535-7710)—**"Picasso in the Metropolitan Museum of Art."** Through Aug. 1. | **"Doug + Mike Starn on the Roof: Big Bambú."** Through Oct. 31. | **"Playing with Pictures: The Art of Victorian Photocollage."** Through May 9. | **"The Mourners: Medieval Tomb Sculpture from the Court of Burgundy."** Through May 23. | **"The Art of Illumination: The Limbourg and the Belles Heures of Jean de France, Duc de Berry."** Through June 13. | **"Side by Side: Oberlin's Masterworks at the Met."** Through Aug. 29. | **"Vienna Circa 1780: An Imperial Silver Service Rediscovered."** Through Nov. 7. | **"Tutankhamun's Funeral."** Through Sept. 6. | **"Epic India: Scenes from the Ramayana."** The Ramayana, a Sanskrit saga that first emerged in India in the fifth century B.C., may not feature a kraken, but its plot is every bit as juicy as that of "Clash of the Titans"—there's a beautiful wife who's been kidnapped, an arduous journey to find her, and a climactic military blowout. The objects on display here range from a fragment of a Nepalese garment embroidered with battle scenes (attributed to the fifteenth century and likely worn by a Hindu priest) to a large painting on cotton from the late eighteenth century detailing the combat of Rama (our hero) and Ravana (his nemesis). Accompanying scenes of blood and gore are images of supernatural weirdness, including one of Rama's standing army of monkeys and bears, and a watercolor-and-gold manuscript page illuminated between 1595 and 1605, in which Ravana appears as a ten-headed demon. Through Sept. 26. (Open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9:30 to 5:30, and Friday and Saturday evenings until 9.)

MUSEUM OF COMIC AND CARTOON ART

594 Broadway, at Houston St. (212-254-3511)—“**Neointegrity: Comics Edition.**” Through May 30. (Open Tuesdays through Sundays, noon to 5.)

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Fifth Ave. at 103rd St. (212-534-1672)—“**Charles Addams’s New York.**” Through May 16. (Open Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 to 5.)

NEUE GALERIE

1048 Fifth Ave., at 86th St. (212-628-6200)—“**Otto Dix.**” Through Aug. 30. (Open Thursdays through Mondays, 11 to 6.)

NEW MUSEUM

235 Bowery, at Prince St. (212-219-1222)—“**Skin Fruit: Selections from the Dakis Joannou Collection Curated by Jeff Koons.**” Through June 6. (Open Wednesdays and weekends, noon to 6, and Thursdays and Fridays, noon to 10.)

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fifth Ave. at 42nd St. (212-869-8089)—“**In Passing: Evelyn Hofer, Helen Levitt, and Lilo Raymond.**” Through May 23. | “**Picture Perfect: Laurie Simmons, Photographs 1976-1978.**” Through May 23. (Open Mondays, 11 to 6, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 11 to 7:30, Thursdays through Saturdays, 10 to 6, and Sundays, 1 to 5.)

P.S. 1 CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER

22-25 Jackson Ave., Queens (718-784-2084)—“**On Site 3: Mickalene Thomas.**” Through May 3. | “**Marina Abramović: Chair for Man and His Spirit.**” Through May 10. (Open Thursdays through Mondays, noon to 6.)

RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART

150 W. 17th St. (212-620-5000)—“**Remember That You Will Die: Death Across Cultures.**” Through Aug. 9. (Open Mondays and Thursdays, 11 to 5, Wednesdays, 11 to 7, Fridays, 11 to 10, and weekends, 11 to 6.)

STUDIO MUSEUM IN HARLEM

144 W. 125th St. (212-864-4500)—“**Collected: Propositions on the Permanent Collection.**” Through June 28. | “**Vidéostudio: New Work from France.**” Through June 27. (Open Wednesdays through Fridays, and Sundays, noon to 6, and Saturdays, 10 to 6.)

GALLERIES—UPTOWN

JOANN VERBURG

Verburg’s color photographs of the Italian town of Spoleto are not the views of a tourist. She’s so familiar with these narrow passages, painted plaster walls, and bricked-up archways that her pictures feel intimate, loving. She glides past spots in a haze of pleasure and remembrance, allowing areas of her pictures to slip out of focus, as if in a swoon or a daydream. Seen through her eyes, the town is a marvellous maze, empty save for the almost palpable presence of the photographer’s avid eye. Three small head shots of people on the street stand in for the otherwise absent population, but you almost resent their intrusion on Verburg’s reverie. Through May 1. (Pace MacGill, 32 E. 57th St. 212-759-7999.)

Short List

VIJA CELMINS: McKee, 745 Fifth Ave., at 57th St. 212-688-5951. Opens April 29. **THOMAS HOUSEAGO:** Werner, 4 E. 77th St. 212-988-1623. Through June 5. **“EDWARD KOREN: THE CAPRICIOUS LINE”:** Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University, Schermerhorn Hall, Broadway, at 116th St. 212-854-7288. Through June 12.

“TANGUY, CALDER: BETWEEN SURREALISM AND ABSTRACTION”: L&M Arts, 45 E. 78th St. 212-861-0020. Through June 12.