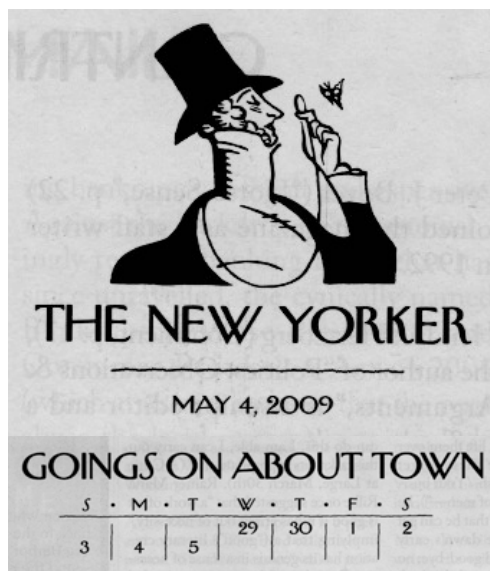


Thomas Erben Gallery



YAMINI NAYAR

This young, New York-based artist makes large color photographs of interiors that look like their architects abandoned them, unfinished, and decided to invite the vandals in. The room in one diptych is papered in a fleur-de-lis pattern, but all sense of domestic refinement stops there; under an armature of shredded draperies, a twisted totem, black as tar, snakes toward the ceiling. In another room, broken black floorboards appear to drop off into a blank void pierced only by a wide-open eye. Nayar constructs these odd, ruined sites on tabletops and photographs them so that all sense of scale is lost and only the uneasy feeling that we've been here before—perhaps in a dream—remains. Through May 9. (Erben, 526 W. 26th St. 212-645-8701.)

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