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GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

DONA NELSON

This impertinent master of the New York big painting keeps solving stylistic problems that you didn't know existed, veering between representation and abstraction. In this show, there are mountain landscapes in graphite on canvas, in one case augmented with modelling paste, sand, and slathered acrylic. There are also insouciantly ugly abstractions in relief, made with skeins of cheesecloth plastered to

the canvas. Most wonderful are grand, tensile compositions in graphite and charcoal, like X-rayed de Koonings. In the fourth decade of her never predictable career, Nelson is painting like a house on fire. Through Feb. 9. (Cheim & Read, 547 W. 25th St. 212-242-7727.)