

Thomas Erben Gallery



APRIL 12 - 18, 2017

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART

Dona Nelson

The Nebraska-born artist, who moved to New York in 1967, makes paintings that have the presence of sculptures, the slapdash brio of backdrops, and the atmospheric gestalt of textile designs. To make the freestanding, two-sided "Lavender Lion," for instance, she poured pale-purple paint onto the back of the canvas, to which she had applied strips of cheesecloth; removing them left a scarred-looking grid. The front of the canvas bears yellow scribbles and puddles of shiny gray. In a series of works that the artist dubs "boxes," she stands paired canvases, both abstract and figurative, back to back or side by side, energizing the show but also lending it the harried air of a labyrinth. *Through May 6. (Erben, 526 W. 26th St. 212-645-8701.)*