Art

Reviews (William Zimmer)

Group Show
Artists Space
105 Hudson St., through Feb. 28

If you're wondering where the new wave has gone, try riding the Super 8 surf that laps against the incline Myrel Chernick has set up in her room at Artists Space. Rounding out the seaside ambience are slides of the ocean off Long Island at various times of summer days, an enumeration of the weeks of the summer months, and a projection of a young man and woman in silhouette facing each other.

As the waves ceaselessly roll, we see trouble brewing via flashing captions based on the word "wave." (Sample: "He breaks." "She waved him on.") It's obvious that Chernick can be rhythmic and lulling, if corny. The moon and the tides are in good sync, but the course of true love is awkward.

Another room here is shared by the strangely likable shaped paintings of Tom Rubnitz — his most memorable painted shape is a coiled spring — and by the ambitious abstract drawings of Carroll Dunham. The headline exhibition is a show of architectural proposals curated by architect-sculptor Bernard Tschumi. The endemic problem with shows of this sort is that the most interesting visions could never be built, and the most feasible ones can't be read.