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10 Galleries to Visit Now Around SoHo and TriBeCa

By Jason Farago April 26, 2018

And so the hottest gallery neighborhood in New York is ... nowhere in particular! With rents ever higher in Chelsea's old garages and the Lower East Side's tenements, nearly a dozen homesteading dealers have moved to a few blocks of terra nullius hemmed in by SoHo, TriBeCa and the Civic Center. Centered on Walker Street, these galleries — a mix of Chelsea refugees, peripatetic veterans of downtown and a few new kids — have imparted fresh energy to one of Lower Manhattan's last ungentrified zones.

This downtown ramble begins in NoHo, where three strong galleries cluster on Great Jones Street. Then cross Houston Street; though boutiques long ago supplanted artists in SoHo, some interesting art spaces remain. Work your way east once you're below Canal, and, if you're up for more after the last stop, scarf down some dumplings and strut into Chinatown, home to young galleries like 56 Henry, MEN and New Release.

TriBeCa

ARTISTS SPACE through May 6; 55 Walker Street, artistspace.org. It hasn't yet moved into its new permanent home on White Street, but this enduring nonprofit, led now by Jay Sanders, the Whitney's performance alumnus, is doing what it does best from its Walker Street rental: essential shows by emerging artists and by historical figures too little celebrated. The Chicago painter Miyoko Ito (1918-1983), who was born in Berkeley and interned during World War II, is one of the latter: her strange abstract paintings, informed as much by Giorgio Morandi's sallow still lifes as by the legacy of Surrealism, come as a revelation. In a palette of chartreuse, ocher, cinnamon and gamboge, Ito overlaid uncommon shapes, such as a rectangle rounded and pinched at the top like a loaf of Wonder Bread, into compositions of preternatural calm.



Miyoko Ito's "Heart of Hearts" show at Artists Space.
Credit: Vincent Tullo for *The New York Times*