

Derosia

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Zombie Formalism

This small, scrappy group show plants a seed that may grow, dignifying the current snark for jejune abstract painting. A statement—“art with a diversely uniform look, manifest in rule-bound yet random outcomes”—dates the tendency to the early nineteen-seventies, when it flourished briefly under the label of lyrical abstraction. Earnestly pleasant works from back then by the likes of Jeff Way and Carol Haerer commune with new ones by such young guns as Whitney Claffin and Julia Rommel. Spin paintings from 1986 by Walter Robinson, the snarker-in-chief who coined the titular epithet, preside.

— *The New Yorker*