

Derosia

The New Yorker, January, 2016

# THE NEW YORKER

## **FLATLANDS**

January 14 2016 - April 17 2016

On the fifth floor, Frank Stella's abstract paintings swoop off the walls; in this ground-floor exhibition, five young realist painters find new possibilities in two dimensions. The best work comes from Caitlin Keogh, whose depiction of a headless mannequin with visible intestines pays homage to the Chicago Imagist Jim Nutt. By comparison, Orion Martin's glossy surrealism and Nina Chanel Abney's mashup of pinups and Stuart Davis glyphs feel rehashed. Jamian Juliano-Villani, whose wild work can thrill at large scale, looks lacklustre in a small scene of anthropomorphized traffic cones. Mathew Cerletty, at thirty-five, the oldest artist in the group, shows landscapes as blandly generic as desktop backgrounds. The show borrows its title from E. A. Abbott's 1884 satire, in which a square asserts the existence of a third dimension and ends up in prison; it would have been nice to see a hint of such rebelliousness here.

Whitney Museum

99 Gansevoort St.

New York, NY 10014