

# Bloomberg

## Sex Toys, Piped Pollution, African Lesbians: Chelsea Art

By Katya Kazakina - Mar 21, 2013 12:01 AM ET



Luigi Ghirri/Matthew Marks Gallery via Bloomberg

"Bologna" (1973) by Luigi Ghirri. The Italian artist's 25 vintage color photographs are the subject of an exhibition at Matthew Marks gallery.

A life-size skeleton of a sea cow hovers over a glittering surface of trinkets and tar, providing the centerpiece of Mark Dion's marine-themed exhibition at [Tanya Bonakdar](#) gallery in [New York's Chelsea](#) district.

 [Enlarge image](#)



Dion's six sculptures include a book cart filled with nautical guides and adventure novels. A cabinet displays jars stuffed with colorful sex and dog toys, evoking squishy undersea creatures.

Prices are \$55,000 to \$120,000. Through April 13 at 521 W. 21st St.; <http://www.tanyabonakdargallery.com>

Here are a few more stops for a gallery stroll in Chelsea. Take a break by the fire at Moran's (146 10th Ave., at West 19th St.), over steamed mussels and wine; <http://www.moransrestaurant.com>.


**West 21st Street**

"TK" Thembi Khumalo, BB Section Umlazi township, Durban" (2012) by South African artist Zanele Muholi. The artist makes her solo U.S. debut at Yancey Richardson Gallery. Photographer: Zanele Muholi/Yancey Richardson Gallery via Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



"Mountains and Sea" (1952) by Helen Frankenthaler. The artist's 29 paintings are on view at Gagosian Gallery. Source: Gagosian Gallery via Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



A detail of "Marine Invertebrates" by Mark Dion at Tanya Bonakdar gallery. The installation features sex and dog toys that evoke undersea creatures. Photographer: Katya Kazakina/Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



"The Order of Things" by Mirosław Balka at Chelsea's Gladstone Gallery. Source: Gladstone Gallery via Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



**Gagosian Gallery:** The early work of abstract painter Helen Frankenthaler is the subject of the exhibition organized by John Elderfield, the [Museum of Modern Art's](#) curator emeritus, who also works for the gallery. It includes 29 paintings from 1950 to 1959. Through April 13 at 522 W. 21st St.; <http://www.gagosian.com>.

**Gladstone Gallery:** A nondescript white door opens to a soaring space dominated by Mirosław Balka's two gigantic steel urns. Inky liquid noisily gushes into them from black pipes above in endless circulation, suggesting a cycle of environmental pollution. The price is in the mid-six-figures, the gallery said, declining to specify. Through March 30 at 530 W. 21th St.; <http://www.gladstonegallery.com>.

**303 Gallery:** Across the street, Doug Aitken's sonic fountain makes more melodious sounds as water drips from the ceiling into a milky pit on the floor (the excavated debris is piled nearby). The sound of each drop echoes through the gallery, amplified by underwater microphones. Prices are \$180,000 to \$450,000. Through April 6 at 547 W. 21st St.; <http://www.303gallery.com>.

**Paula Cooper Gallery:** Repetition is the subject of an elegant Minimalist art exhibition. Steel floor planks by Carl Andre shimmer in the fluorescent glow of [Dan Flavin's](#) light tubes; Douglas Huebler's S-shaped sculpture creates a counterpoint for Sol LeWitt's grid tower. Prices are \$400,000 to \$1.2 million. Through March 23 at 534 W. 21st St.; <http://www.paulacoopergallery.com>.

## West 22nd Street

**Matthew Marks:** In Luigi Ghirri's 1973 photograph "Bologna," a man and a woman appear bored to death as they wait at a restaurant table. They are unaware of the huge waves painted on a wall behind them that look as if they are about to swallow the couple. The show's 25 color photographs demonstrate that Ghirri is a master of witty juxtapositions, unexpected framing and brilliant manipulation of space. Prices are \$12,000 to \$20,000. Through April 20 at 526 W. 22nd St.; <http://www.matthewmarks.com>.

**Yancey Richardson:** The first U.S. exhibition of South African artist Zanele Muholi includes 29 striking black-and-white



Doug Aitken's "100 YRS" exhibition at 303 Gallery. The show's centerpiece is a sonic fountain. Photographer: Katya Kazakina/Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



"Untitled (9-26) (The Katy Kill)" (2012) by Thomas Nozkowski. Source: Pace Gallery via Bloomberg

 Enlarge image



"Pipes" (2013) by Iranian artist Shiva Ahmadi. The artist mixes 16th century Persian painting with images of pipelines and bloody rulers. Source: Leila Heller Gallery via Bloomberg

photographs of the members of African lesbian and transgender communities. All but one image were part of Muholi's project at the [Documenta](#) survey of contemporary art in Kassel, [Germany](#), in 2012. Each framed work is \$4,200.

Through April 6 at 535 W. 22nd St.;

<http://www.yanceyrichardson.com>.

## West 25th Street

Leila Heller: Iranian artist Shiva Ahmadi marries 16th-century Persian painting with images of pipelines, monkey worshipers and enthroned rulers with bloody faces and explosives in their hands. Despite its dark symbolism, the work has a feathery touch with luminous washes of watercolor and calligraphic ink curls. Prices are \$4,000 to \$55,000. Through March 23 at 568 W.25th St.; <http://www.leilahellergallery.com/>

Pace Gallery: In his small, electrifying paintings, Thomas Nozkowski seamlessly juggles many opposing elements: hard-edged grids and amorphous blobs, electric colors and earthy tones, matte and glossy surfaces. Prices are \$85,000 to \$200,000. Through March 23 at 508 W. 25th St.; <http://www.pacegallery.com>.

Muse highlights include [Jason Harper](#) on cars, [Rich Jaroslovsky](#) on technology.

To contact the reporters of this story: Katya Kazakina in New York at [kkazakina@bloomberg.net](mailto:kkazakina@bloomberg.net).

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Manuela Hoelterhoff at [mhoelterhoff@bloomberg.net](mailto:mhoelterhoff@bloomberg.net).