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ART & DESIGN

10 Galleries to Visit on the Lower East Side

By HOLLAND COTTER APRIL 16, 2015



"The Lovers" by June Leaf, at Steven Harvey Fine Art Projects.

STEVEN HARVEY FINE ART PROJECTS

Drawings by June Leaf at Steven Harvey are, on the average, even smaller than Mr. Fairs's, more intensively worked, and in an entirely different emotional key. Most are of tiny figures painted on photographs or drawn over and over on paper until they seem to vibrate. All seem to be embedded in unexplained narratives, and even when images are meant to be wry or comedic, as in studies for sculptures, there's a charge of violence around them. This is especially strong in her drawings and paintings on photographs, where she seems to be digging and boring into the surface of the print. Ms. Leaf, in her 80s, is extraordinary, and her show, which stretches over decades, is one of the best on the Lower East Side.