

The New York Times September 2008

Museum and Gallery Listings

By THE NEW YORK TIMES Published: September 25, 2008 Roberta Smith

CRESWELL CRAGS' In this ecumenical group show of 10 mostly young, mostly promising artists, statements rarely overlap, but they do touch. Between Michael Bauer's elegant, genielike abstract painting and Alex Hubbard's hat-trick video abstraction, links are formed by the morphing geometries of Mark Barrow's painting and Frank Haines's sculpture; the opposing uses of representation deployed by Rashid Johnson and Alan Reid; the angular profiles and doublings of Erin Shirreff, J. Parker Valentine and Josh Faught; and Zak Prekop's supposed embrace of the all-white monochrome. Materials vary similarly. A quiet optimism that is nothing to sniff at accrues.

Lisa Cooley, 34 Orchard Street, Lower East Side, (212) 680-0564, lisa-cooley.com, through Oct. 5. (Smith)