

rachel uffner

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## 5 Must See Gallery Shows: Bruce Davenport, Jr., Amalia Ulman, and More

BY SCOTT INDRISEK | FEBRUARY 06, 2015

**“Proper Nouns” at Rachel Uffner Gallery, through February 22 (170 Suffolk Street)**

Curated by sculptural-painter Wyatt Kahn, this strange little show has a simple enough conceit: “The exhibition revolves around a set of nouns that constitute the central imagery of each artist’s work,” including “hot dogs, lamps, knobs, cranks, women, and the painter’s persona.” The hot dogs here are courtesy of photographer Lucas Blalock, who shoots them — arranged in circles or stacks like minimalist meat-totems — in extremely high-resolution. A selection of glazed ceramics by Zachary Leener resemble shoes, barbells, or pills, rendered in a color palette that recalls the hippy-dippy ’60s and, somehow, “Scooby Doo.” Leonhard Hurlzmeier’s paintings pare down female bodies into almost abstract letterforms and shapes — breasts, bangles, a long sweep of hair. Jamie Isenstein’s “Sand Lamp” sculptures are... well... lamps buried in mounds of sand, like the beach and a suburban living room simultaneously got lost in the white cube. Paul McCarthy’s “Painter,” 1995, anchors the show. It’s a video of him doing his Neanderthal-clown routine, but the soundtrack of grunts and scrapes provides a nice aural backdrop for the entire exhibition.

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