
At the Galleries

by Karen Wilkin

THE PAST SEASON'S GRIM WEATHER MADE VISITING galleries in New York's windswept Chelsea—and elsewhere—a test not just of perseverance but also of endurance, but for the hardy, there were ample rewards. These included sumptuous abstractions by Larry Poons and Melissa Meyer, playful wall pieces by Leslie Wayne, solemn still lifes and figure paintings by William Bailey, and, if we ventured uptown, thoughtful disquisitions on perception by Lois Dodd—a notably diverse list of exhibitions unified only by their all dealing with (mostly) recent work by mature Americans. If we braved the slush and ice of alternating thaw and freeze further uptown, there was a mini-retrospective of the German-born Swiss sculptor Hans Josephsohn (1920–2012), a high point of the Arsenale installation at the 2013 Venice Biennale whose work is all-too-rarely seen in this country.