

THE NEW YORKER


GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

Katherine Bradford

Mysterious, ecstatic paintings of water and sky by an artist who divides her time between New York and Maine. “Storm at Sea” is a night view of swimmers, splotchy peach figures in a field of inky purple. Incoming weather is rendered as a tangle of scratches and lavender scumbling at the horizon, illuminated by lightning. At odds with her aquatic subject matter, Bradford works with dry paint, in thin or rubbed-out layers, to achieve the murky and luminous depths of her otherworldly vistas. In “Shell Seeker, Large Night,” a lovely line of dusky planets skimming the top edge of the image suggests that a mystical universe may lurk at the edge of the known world. Born in 1942, the artist is hardly new on the scene, but she has only recently begun to get her due. If this forceful, intriguing show is any indication, there is much more to look forward to.

Through Feb. 11.

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