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THE NEW YORKER

"ART Elisabeth Kley and Tabboo!" Johanna Fateman, The New Yorker. October 2019. <https://www.newyorker.com/goings-on-about-town/art/atea-nature-and-divinity-in-polynesia>

ART Elisabeth Kley and Tabboo!

Glazed earthenware fountains and trompe-l'oeil murals by Kley conjure a Roman courtyard—her inspiration was the garden environment of her friend Tabboo!'s apartment—setting the stage for a restorative show that celebrates the years-long collaboration of these two New York artists. Tabboo!, a legendary drag performer, who is also a painter with a green thumb, has installed plants in the gallery's window, potted in charming vessels by Kley, near a wall here filled with a grid of his botanical watercolors. These playfully incantatory works on paper pairing leafy specimens with such evocative words and phrases as "ersatz" and "chef d'oeuvre." A selection of his small canvases includes the diabolically vibrant "Parakeets on Pink," in a wonderfully slapdash black-and-white faux-stone frame by Kley.

— Johanna Fateman

*Through Nov. 10.
Gordon Robichaux
41 Union Square West
Downtown*