

# Three-Sentence Reviews: Peter Saul's Fake News, Trevor Paglen's Zombie Conceptualism, and 7 More September Shows

*By Jerry Saltz*

**Alex Chaves; *Dizzy Buchanan***

Martos Gallery

41 Elizabeth Street / through October 21

For his second outstanding show at this perennially nervy gallery, Alex Chaves, 28 and already adept at declarative opaque color and metamorphosing roiling surfaces, picks up his game, bringing it more firmly into realms of visual pleasure, cryptic politics, and decorative magic. Unafraid to crawl inside the skins of masters like Vuillard, Baselitz, Guston, and Van Gogh, Chaves gives us flowers up close; juicy sluices of paint that form a clock; *Khalif*, a gorgeous Bernard Buffet-meets-Egon Schiele portrait of a nude black man reclining before what looks like a Bavarian townscape; and finally, a broken-up figure that instantly conjures Georg Baselitz's early-1960s mold-breaking *Hero* paintings of fallen German figures. If this L.A.-based painter, poet, and performer (and other younger artists working in similarly lit-up figurative territories) can stay the course, good things lie ahead for an art world in obvious transition and rebuilding.