

ART REVIEWS

# New York Galleries: What to See Right Now

A survey of Hannah Wilke's career; Tyree Guyton's "Faces of God" series; and Tiona Nekkia McClodden's tough and tender sculptural objects.



# MARTOS GALLERY

## Tyree Guyton

Through Dec. 22. Martos Gallery, 41 Elizabeth Street, Manhattan; 212-560-0670, [martosgallery.com](http://martosgallery.com).

Tyree Guyton is best known for the Heidelberg Project, an arts-based community revitalization effort on the East Side of Detroit that includes a permanent outdoor display of hundreds of sculptures he's made of found objects. His New York solo debut at Martos Gallery, by contrast, aside from one buoyant installation of colorful doors, is minimally hung. There are paintings on two more wooden doors, and a car hood, titled "Extinction," marked with two graphic faces; some exuberant drawings by the artist's grandfather, Sam Mackey, who gave him his first paintbrush; and several paintings from Mr. Guyton's "Faces of God" series, in which heavily simplified faces are painted against bright monochrome backgrounds.

The faces' thick outlines are easily parsed, but their colors and textures are often intensely worked, and the stylistic contrast is jarring. Equally jarring is the confident ease with which Mr. Guyton slices objects like doors and car parts out of their ordinary contexts and subjects them to his own creative purposes. It amounts to a kind of conceptual syncopation — the making of an art work that is simultaneously a performance of being an artist — and it kept me thoroughly off balance. One three-quarters view of a black man's head in particular stayed with me: Marked with a sticker reading "SALE," the piece is titled "I'm not for sale."

WILL HEINRICH