

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

DECEMBER 17, 2007

CAMERON MARTIN

Martin's spare, elegant paintings, all rendered in an otherworldly palette of grays, at first call to mind the lunar landscapes of Vija Celmins, or the early Gerhard Richter. Twists of driftwood, boulders, and rocky plains are rendered in dark grisaille, making the images seem dim at first, as if seen by weak starlight or through fog. There's something a little apocalyptic in these utterly lifeless landscapes—even the tree branches are long past any potential leafiness. One could look at these and imagine sets for a production of Cormac McCarthy's "The Road"; their relentless formal reduction speaks of lost worlds, or, perhaps, the stark start of a new one. Through Jan. 5. (Greenberg Van Doren, 730 Fifth Ave., at 57th St. 212-445-0444; and Eleven Rivington, 11 Rivington St. 212-982-1930.)