

# VAN DOREN WAXTER

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ART GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

## “Alan Shields Project”

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Seven contemporary artists pay irresistible homage to the color-besotted genius Alan Shields, who died in 2005 at the age of sixty-one—and who, perhaps inevitably, steals the show. His “My Roller Derby Queen,” a cheesecloth-on-cardboard semi-abstraction marked with a grid of red and green velcro squares, confounds any attempt to distinguish color from texture, or substance from form. But so do the lush, fluorescent brushstrokes of Lisa Alvarado’s acrylic-on-wood piece “Traditional Object 11.” The workaday raw canvas of B. Wurtz’s “Untitled (Three Red Circles Button Painting)” wears its functional overtones like a badge of honor. Naotaka Hiro’s unstretched and untitled painting of a black jellyfish boasts a border of grommets and twine. The strongest statement of emotional investment in materials may be Channing Hansen’s “3-Manifold,” a multicolored skein of hand-spun and hand-dyed yarn: the alpacas that provided the wool are identified by name in the show’s checklist.

Through Feb. 17.

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