

VAN DOREN
WAXTER

The New York Times

SPRING GALLERY GUIDE

Over 40 Art Shows to See Right Now

From Bushwick to Harlem, with many stops in between, our art critics take stock of the best shows this spring.

By Jason Farago | April 26, 2019



An installation view of Moira Dryer's untitled works from the late 1980s at Van Doren Waxter. Credit via Van Doren Waxter, New York

2. Van Doren Waxter, 'Moira Dryer: Paintings & Works on Paper'

Here is a show of an abstract painter ahead of her time, and whose stylistic promiscuity belied a deep rigor. Moira Dryer, a Canadian artist who came to New York in the 1970s, made her most successful works by applying wavy stripes of black, teal, jonquil, and oxblood red to wood supports; the thin application of pigment, which in places spills top to bottom in trickles or floods, emphasizes the objecthood of the wooden paintings and the artist's careful balancing act between design and chance. This show also includes a few lovely gouaches, alive with the Mediterranean colors of Matisse, that testify to Dryer's artistic omnivorousness and ability to surprise. Her death in 1992, at 34, deprived art history of what was already a superb career, but her example saturates the studios of New York's contemporary painters. **Through May 24 at 23 East 73rd Street, second and third floors; 212-445-0444, vandorenwaxter.com.**