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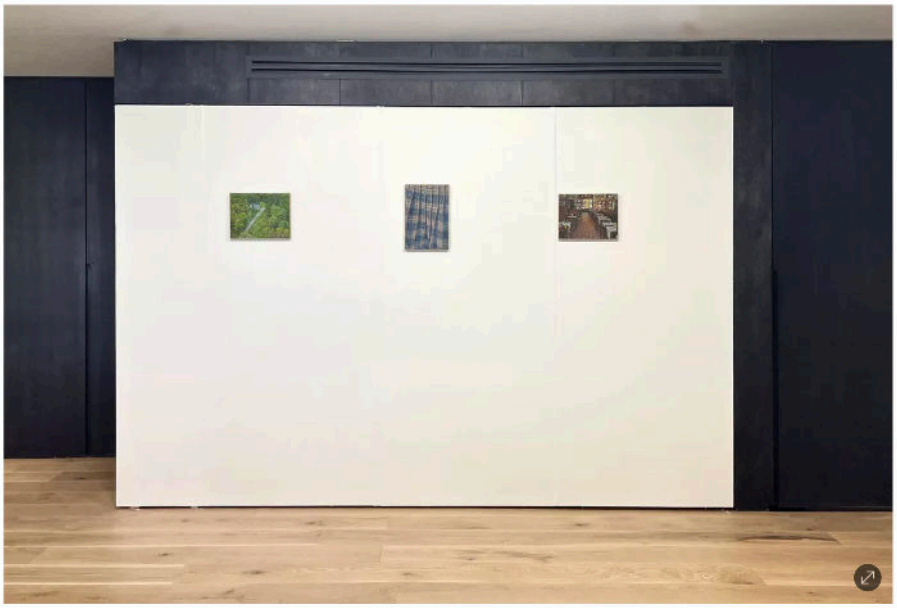
Art Market

The Best Booths at New York Art Week 2022

Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery

Floor 5, Booth 4

With works by Jennifer J. Lee



Jennifer J. Lee, installation view in Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery's booth at Independent 2022. Courtesy of Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery and Independent.

Jute, the affordable natural fiber that can be woven in coarse burlap, is far from a common surface when it comes to oil painting. But Jennifer J. Lee takes this humble fabric and spins magic with it, creating photorealistic works based on images she finds online. The handful of small paintings here (all of which sold in the $8,000 to $12,000 range) were created specifically for the fair, with an eye to placing their simple subjects in dialogue with one another while highlighting the artist's deft technical abilities.

A drone shot from a Zillow listing seems to ooze apart as you get close to it, dissolving into green washes of color struck through with gray. A similar trick is on display in a close-up of a turkey BLT, which becomes so much pointillist noise when glimpsed too closely, a vague vertical construction when seen from afar. But as you move yourself to focus the image, it suddenly snaps together. These paintings and others—a full-frame shot of a plaid skirt, a pixelated interior—encourage this playful pas de deux between viewer and work and reward extended viewing.