

# Hany Armanious, "Birth of Venus"

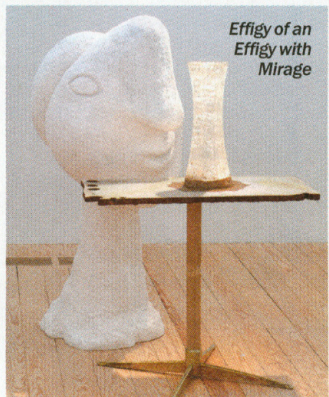
★★★★★

**Foxy Production**, through June 26 (see Chelsea)

During my visit to Hany Armanious's "Birth of Venus," gallery director Michael Gillespie leapt up from behind his desk to make sure I knew that every object in the Australia-based artist's show was not what it appeared to be. The heads-up was judicious; even a close inspection of these grungy arrangements might not reveal that, with one or two exceptions, their components are cast from polyurethane resin. Aligning the quasimagical instantaneity of the casting process with the mythical emergence of beauty depicted in Botticelli's titular canvas, Armanious attempts to discover a comparable pulchritude in present-day flotsam and jetsam. His primary tool in eliciting this inner light is an extraordinary verisimilitude that throws the entire enterprise of object-making into question by confusing origins with ends.

*Party Pooper* is typical, a lopsided three-legged table supporting the avatars of an old ashtayr, a large seashell and other humble totems. *Effigy of an Effigy with Mirage* features a large, Picasso-esque bust, sitting next to a table drilled with holes, the top of which has something resembling a crystal vase taped into place.

Only a quartet of "Sneeze Paintings" breaks the mold. Though also made in part from resin, they're not casts but rather the results of a more "active" process, in which the transparent material is frozen in splashlike forms that trace the explosive force of human reflex. Armanious's choices might sound arbitrary, but his combination of impeccable technique and sensitive arrangement amplifies an effectively counterintuitive poetry.—*Michael Wilson*



*Effigy of an Effigy with Mirage*

## Listings

### If you want to be listed

Submit information by mail or e-mail (art@timeoutny.com) to **T.J. Carlin**. Include details, dates, times, address of venue with cross streets, nearest subways, contact information and admission price, if any. **Deadline is 6pm Monday, ten days before publication date.** Incomplete submissions will not be included, and listings information will not be accepted over the phone.

**Listings are chosen at the discretion of the editors. TONY does not accept compensation of any kind in exchange for listing events or venues.**

### How to use this section

The following is a selection of this week's exhibitions and events. For more museums, see the Own This City, Museums section.

\* Recommended

♠ Cheap

▶ Video For video clips, reviews and more, log on to [timeoutnewyork.com/video](http://timeoutnewyork.com/video).

## Art museums & institutions

FOR OTHER MUSEUMS AND INSTITUTIONS, SEE OWN THIS CITY

### American Folk Art Museum

♠ 45 W 53rd St between Fifth and Sixth Aves (212-265-1040, [folkartmuseum.org](http://folkartmuseum.org)). Subway: E to Fifth Ave-53rd St. Tue-Sun 10:30am-5:30pm, Fri 11am-7:30pm. \$12, seniors and students \$8, children under 12 free. Fri 5:30-7:30pm free.

**"The Private Collection of Henry Darger"** The pieces this reclusive artist woke up to every morning constitute the work in this show. Through Sept 19.

**"Women Only: Folk Art by Female Hands"** Through Sept 12.

### Asia Society

725 Park Ave at 70th St (212-288-6400, [asiasociety.org](http://asiasociety.org)). Subway: 6 to 68th St-Hunter College. Tue-Sun 11am-6pm. \$10; members, seniors and students \$10; children under 16 accompanied by an adult free. Fri 6-9pm free.

**"Mariko Mori: Kumano"** One of Mori's early video works demonstrates her sustained interest in spiritual belief systems. Through Aug 1.

### Brooklyn Museum

200 Eastern Pkwy at Washington Ave, Prospect Heights, Brooklyn (718-638-5000, [brooklynmuseum.org](http://brooklynmuseum.org)). Subway: 2, 3 to Eastern Pkwy-Brooklyn Museum. Wed-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat, Sun 11am-6pm. Suggested donation \$8, seniors and students \$4, members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult free. First Saturday of every month 5-11pm free.

**"American High Style: Fashioning a National Collection"** On display are a selection of pieces from the Met's Costume Institute that highlight fashion throughout the ages, with an emphasis on women designers. Through Aug 1.

**"Kiki Smith, Sojourn"** The cycle of life, particularly as it relates to the female

body, is the subject of this installation. Through Sept 12.

**"Andy Warhol: The Last Decade"** Warhol produced some of his most iconic works in the last ten years of his life, including screened pieces and oxidized paintings. Through Sept 12.

### Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum

2 E 91st St at Fifth Ave (212-849-8400, [cooperhewitt.org](http://cooperhewitt.org)). Subway: 4, 5, 6 to 86th St. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm. \$15, seniors and students \$10, children under 12 free.

**"National Design Triennial: Why Design Now?"** This installment of the Design Triennial will present individuals whose works solve basic human problems in the 21st century. Through Jan 9.

### The Frick Collection

1 E 70th St between Fifth and Madison Aves (212-288-0700, [frick.org](http://frick.org)). Subway: 6 to 68th St-Hunter College. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-5pm. \$18, seniors \$12, students with ID \$5, children under 10 not admitted, teenagers under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Sun 11am-1pm pay what you wish.

**"From Mansion to Museum: The Frick Collection Celebrates Seventy-Five Years"** In 1931, following his wife's death, Henry Clay Frick ordered a renovation of his home so that his superb art collection might be available to the public; these beautiful illustrations depict the plans to change the building into what we know today as the Frick Collection. Tue 22-Sept 5.

### Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

1071 Fifth Ave at 89th St (212-423-3500, [guggenheim.org](http://guggenheim.org)). Subway: 4, 5, 6 to 86th St. Mon-Wed, Fri, Sun 10am-5:45pm; Sat 10am-7:45pm. \$18, seniors and students with ID \$15, children under 12 accompanied by an adult free. Sat 5:45-7:45pm pay what you wish.

**"Haunted: Contemporary Photography/Video/Performance"** All the work in this show, while widely varied, embodies the idea of being tied to the past in some way. Through Sept 6.

\* **"Malevich in Focus: 1912-1922"** Through June 30.

\* **"Julie Mehretu: Grey Area"** These large paintings were inspired by Berlin, where the artist was living when she made them. Through Oct 6.

\* **"Kenneth Noland, 1924-2010: A Tribute"** This small group of paintings includes one from each of Noland's major periods of creation. Through Sun 20.

**"Hilla Rebay: Art Educator"** Through Aug 22.

### The Jewish Museum

1109 Fifth Ave at 92nd St (212-423-3200, [thejewishmuseum.org](http://thejewishmuseum.org)). Subway: 4, 5, 6 to 86th St; 6 to 96th St. Mon, Tue, Sat, Sun 11am-5:45pm; Thu 11am-8pm; Fri 11am-4pm. \$12, seniors \$10, students \$7.50, children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult. Saturdays free.

**"Modern Art, Sacred Space: Motherwell, Ferber and Gottlieb"**

The synagogue as cultural center is the subtext of this exhibition, which focuses on the art created for Congregation B'nai Israel in Millburn, NJ. Through Aug 1.

**"The Monayer Family: Three Videos by Dor Guez"** In a series of videos, the artist explores his complicated lineage, which contains both a Christian Arab foundation and a Jewish one. Through Sept 7.

**"South African Photographs: David Goldblatt"** The great artist's lens captures apartheid. Through Sept 19.

## Critics' picks

Fairfield Porter, Anemone and Daffodil



### PAINTING Fairfield Porter

Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, see 57th Street area  
Nothing is quite as pleasing to the eye as a bright bouquet of flowers, several painted versions of which are on view here alongside landscapes.

### DAVID SALE Mary Boone, see Chelsea

This painter helped to put the post into postmodern.

### DESIGN Alex Dodge

Klaus von Nichtssagend Gallery, see Brooklyn  
In tech-savvy works, the artist explores the potential for a symbiotic relationship between man and machine.

### MIXED MEDIA Ben Gockler

P.P.O.W., see Chelsea  
The poet's first solo exhibition features colorful works that are at once comical and innocent.

### PHOTOGRAPHY Andy Goldsworthy

Galerie Lelong, see Chelsea  
These suites of images depict the random, everyday movement of people and things on the streets of New York.

### PERFORMANCE Joan Jonas

Guggenheim Museum, see Events  
Full-length mirrors enhance the choreographed movements of the performers in a re-creation of Jonas's seminal work *Mirror Piece I*.

**"South African Projections: Films by William Kentridge"**  
Through Sept 19.

### Metropolitan Museum of Art

1000 Fifth Ave at 82nd St (212-535-7710, [metmuseum.org](http://metmuseum.org)). Subway: 4, 5, 6 to 86th St. Tue-Thu, Sun 9:30am-5:30pm; Fri, Sat 9:30am-9pm. Suggested donation \$20, seniors \$15, students \$10, members and children under 12 free.

**"Hipsters, Hustlers and Handball Players: Leon Levinstein's New York Photographs, 1950-1980"** In these works by the famed street photographer, his compassion for his subjects shines. Through Oct 17.