

# THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

## ART

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### GALLERIES—CHELSEA

#### “LOOKING BACK”

Let museums have their biennials, quadrennials, and duodecennials—the White Columns annual, now in its sixth year, just might trump them all with its localist focus on New York’s gallery trenches. This year’s curators, the artists Ken Okiishi and Nick Mauss, strike a collegial note at the outset, with a boisterous painting by the German nonagenarian Maria Lassnig of a man and a woman giving viewers two big thumbs up. Togetherness is one of the shows many threads. Margaret Lee’s zingy photographs were each made in collaboration with a different artist; Adrian Piper exhibits snapshots of herself posing with groups; a video by Loretta Fahrenholz and Emily Sundblad proves that the latter should consider a second career as a torch singer. But it’s a different kind of crossover that provides the show with its big revelation (and its aching heart): a selection of works by the transgender artists Chloe Dzubilo, Siobhan Meow, Josie Collins, Donna Collins, T De Long, and Sid Branch, all of which were originally exhibited at the Umbrella Arts gallery. Through Feb. 18. (White Columns, 320 W. 13th St. 212-924-4212.)