

Books

Edited by
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are brought together here in a felicitous pairing of quirky styles. Fri 19–Oct 26.

Scaramouche 52 Orchard St between Grand and Hester Sts (212-228-2229, scaramoucheart.com). Subway: F to Delancey St; J, Z, M to Delancey–Essex Sts. Wed–Sat noon–6pm, Sun 1–5:30pm.
Alexandria Smith, "Perpetual Adorations" According to Smith, her paintings, mixed-media collages and site-specific installations are motivated by an interest in how young girls (specifically African-American) grow into themselves—which would explain the frequent presence in her work of the same frolicsome pigtailed figure, rendered in a style that recalls children's-book illustrations. Through Nov 2.

Elsewhere

Art in General 79 Walker St between Broadway and Lafayette St (212-219-0473, artingeneral.org). Subway: J, Z, N, Q, R, 6 to Canal St. Tue–Sat noon–6pm.

* **Mika Tajima, "Total Body Conditioning"** See Critics' Picks.

Gavin Brown's Enterprise

620 Greenwich St at Leroy St (212-627-5258, gavinbrown.biz). Subway: 1 to Houston St. Tue–Sat 10am–6pm.

* **Rob Pruitt, "Multiple Personalities"** For his first New York show in four years, Pruitt's jaded humor takes a backseat to a more introverted take, especially in a series of smooth-all-over compositions—dubbed "Suicide Paintings"—that are featureless except for subtle gradients of skylike color shading vertically from dark to light. Is this the artist's vision of heaven or purgatory?

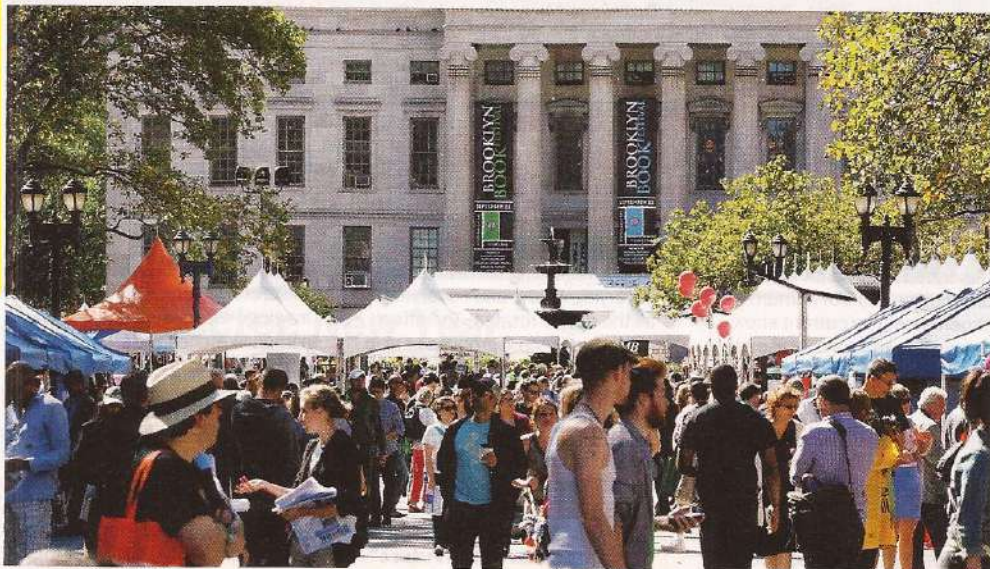
Kansas Gallery 59 Franklin St between Broadway and Lafayette St (646-559-1423, kansasgallery.com). Subway: J, Z, N, Q, R, 6 to Canal St. Tue–Sat 11am–6pm.

Tomer Aluf Aluf bounces between figuration and abstraction with a loose, painterly style and imagery that suggests fantasies or dreams but which is sometimes based on the artist's recall of actual events. Through Oct 11.

FIND MORE ONLINE
TIMEOUT.COM/NEWYORK

Brooklyn Book Festival

For one jam-packed day, there's no better place to be a book nerd. By **Tiffany Gibert**



Yes, dynamic and hip literary events occur daily in New York, but nothing quite compares with the allure of the city's largest (and free!) book fest, which overtakes Brooklyn Borough Hall and Plaza every autumn for an entire day of panels, readings, bibliophile swag and inordinate book buying. Seriously, don't worry about being a Kings County cliché and just bring all your tote bags.

The eight-hour-long schedule of more than 100 programs can be overwhelming, even to book event pros, so we culled the day down to a

few of its finest options; all you have to do is show up and look smart.

IF YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN THE KNOW

Hear five newly published writers—including Mike Meginnis and Catherine Lacey, the author of one of our favorite books this year—share recent work at the "Who? New!" reading. *Mainstage. 11am.*

IF YOU NEVER WANT TO GROW UP

Gain a new perspective of your favorite childhood horror writer, R.L. Stine, when he sits down with two debut authors (Patrik Henry Bass and Suzy Becker) to talk about zombies, middle school and doing anything for a laugh. *Youth Pavilion. 11am.*

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE A FREE TRIP

From war-torn Uganda to the heart of Nigeria, three master novelists—Susan Minot, Dinaw Mengestu and Bridgett Davis—will make you

forget you're in Brooklyn during their "About Africa" panel. *St. Francis College McArdle Hall. Noon.*

IF YOU'RE A BAD FEMINIST

Delve into "This Woman's Work" with Roxane Gay (whose new essay collection, *Bad Feminist*, is a must-read), Kiese Laymon and Leslie Jamison as they address society's perception of women and the division among feminists. *St. Francis College Auditorium. 2pm.*

IF YOU KNOW IT'S NOT THE BOOK FESTIVAL WITHOUT A LITTLE LETHEM

We don't care if he lives in California now—Jonathan Lethem represents literary Brooklyn, so conclude your fest itinerary with him and iconic cartoonist Jules Feiffer in conversation. *St. Francis College Auditorium. 4pm.*

The Brooklyn Book Festival takes place at Brooklyn Borough Hall and Plaza, Downtown Brooklyn (brooklynbookfestival.org). Sun 21 10am–6pm.



For more Brooklyn Book Festival guidance, check out timeout.com/nybooks

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY BROOKLYN BOOK FESTIVAL