



## "What Nerve!"

★★★★  
 Matthew Marks Gallery, through  
 Aug 14

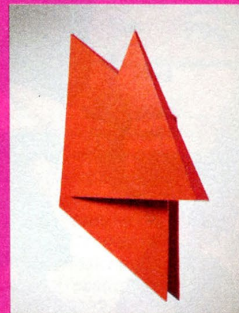
Subtitled "Alternative Figures in American Art, 1960 to the Present," this remarkable survey, curated by Dan Nadel, focuses on the work produced by artists in various milieus (both loosely affiliated and collaborative) in Chicago, Detroit, Providence and San Francisco. Stirring Surrealism

contemporary figurative art. Nadel's show sprawls through all three Matthew Marks locations. The largest mixes Forcefield's sci-fi mannequins with trippy paintings by the Hairy Who's Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt and Karl Wirsum, along with colorful Funk Art sculptures by Roy De Forest, Robert Hudson and Ken Price. Examples of ephemera—Hairy Who comic books and vintage issues of *Destroy All Monsters Magazine*—are given their own

## Critic's picks



By Art editor Howard Halle



### "EMPTY HOUSE CASA VAZIA"

This cross-generational survey spotlights contemporary Brazilian artists from the 1950s to the present. ▶ Luhring Augustine; through Aug 28

## Also on view this week

**"Bronx Calling: The Third AIM Biennial"** The Bronx Museum's Artist in the Marketplace showcase provides a must-see chance for anyone looking to catch tomorrow's art stars. *Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, Bronx (718-681-6000, bronxmuseum.org).* Through Sept 20.

**"Eureka"** Cosmology, metaphysics and science provide the inspiration for the works in this far-out group show. *Pace Gallery, 508 W 25th St (212-989-4258, thepacegallery.com).* Through Fri 14.

**"Titus Kaphar: Selections from Asphalt and Chalk"** Kaphar's drawings of young African-American men layered one on top of the other are derived from a highly personal source: His father, Jerome, had been incarcerated, and while researching his dad's time in jail, the artist came across mug shots of men also named Jerome. Using this discovery as a jumping-off point,



## "Empty House Casa Vazia"

This multi-generational show of works from the 1950s to the present offers a brief overview of Brazil's Neo-Concrete group and its spiritual heirs. Installation and other Conceptualist practices were key components of Neo-Concrete art, though it was based on viewer interaction to a greater degree than similar work in the United States and Europe. This show includes major historical figures such as Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica, and also artists from subsequent generations who aren't as well known here.

📍 Luhring Augustine, Chelsea 🕒 Until Friday August 28 2015

in bright textures decorated with computer-generated patterns of the artist's design. The fabrics are tautly threaded through slots cut into the plastic so that cloth and pigment seem to merge like the work of the French group Support/Surfaces on overload. In one example recalling Mount Fuji, a green-striped triangle is topped with purple and yellow fabric. In another, a chicken

top of a trapezoid banded in salmon and gray. However terrific these objects are individually, together they seem a bit formulaic. More misbehaving from a few of them would have made the proceedings seem more like a show and less like a showroom. —Anne Doran

**THE BOTTOM LINE** Paintings that don't play well with others.



work. In Toroni's case, that meant airy, all-over compositions made by applying a series of the same short brushstroke, spaced the same distance apart in all directions. Surprisingly, his approach afforded wide variations of color, scale and format. This pocket survey provides a brief précis of his 50-year career. *Swiss Institute, 18 Wooster St (212-925-2035, swissinstitute.net).* Through Sept 6.

Art