

# THE NEW YORKER

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## **GALLERIES—CHELSEA**

### **Josephine Halvorson**

Executed on-site and without recourse to photography, these new paintings by a quietly inventive young artist capture humble, everyday sights near her New England studio: the pale-yellow slats of a clapboard house, say, or a single vine in front of a white woodshed. Their exacting detail is impressive enough, but the tight compositions—Halvorson paints at arm's length, close enough to smell the wood or concrete—make them dumbfounding. You don't need to be told to look closely or to spend long minutes with each of the canvases here. That's inevitable with painting as gloriously dense as this, wherein the most mundane of architectural details carries the complexity and heft of royal portraiture. Through March 1. (Sikkema Jenkins, 530 W. 22nd St. 212-929-2262.)