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REVIEWS

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Art

Art in the City: The Lady and the Tramp

By Bryony Roberts

Stefana McClure: The Year of Spagetti and other Works on Paper

Josee Bienvenu Gallery, 529 W 20th, Chelsea

Born in Ireland but obsessed with Japanese culture, Stefana McClure makes extremely subtle text pieces that address the passage of time. Her best-known works are her Films on paper, for which she superimposes the subtitles to an entire film onto a piece of paper, resulting in two soft, blurry lines at the bottom of a color field. For this show, she's applied the same approach to manga books, such as Atom Boy and Akira, transcribing all of the Japanese text from the speech bubbles onto one colored page. The works function simultaneously as minimal abstractions and as compressed narratives, of which only portions are readable. In a separate body of work, McClure fitted typists with gloves with typewriter balls attached to each finger and asked them to type out a given story onto a Teflon surface. The spinning balls punch random letters into the Teflon, and the prolonged typing creates strange clusters of letters around each finger. These typed pieces are especially opaque, but they offer an interesting new method of mark-making and writing.