

ART

3-Sentence Reviews: White Columns, Philip Taaffe, and More

By Jerry Saltz

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Ann Toebbe, Second Marriage, Madison Park, 2015

"Remarried," Ann Toebbe Monya Rowe Gallery, 34 Orchard Street, through February 22. In 2004, something happened to me in a 45-minute studio visit that doesn't happen that often: With their fantastical twists of perspective, seeing rooms from above, left, and right all at the same time, all adding up to geometric visions, a group of canvases by just-graduating Yale painter Ann Toebbe blew my socks off. Even though she was picked for prestigious residencies and the like, she pretty much faded from view as she's been living, painting, teaching, and raising a family in Chicago. Her second show at this gallery finds Toebbe in her usual fussy-sublime form (some might find her surface management claustrophobic and off-putting), with surfaces entirely made of painted collaged bits and all adding up to a fabulous domestic world seen from all sides, almost Proustian in its attention to detail.