

NEW YORK

The Year in Art

By Jerry Saltz

Published Dec 10, 2007

Matthew Barney walked around with a dog on his head, Kara Walker terrified, Richard Prince tanked, things looked up at the Whitney, and the Lower East Side came into its own. Meanwhile, as the sixth borough beckoned, the Met once again reminded us why it reigns supreme.

10. BEST NEW SCENE The Lower East Side Gallery District Just when it seemed like Manhattan real-estate prices had made it impossible for art galleries to cluster in another neighborhood, the Lower East Side has emerged as a real and non-annoying place for looking at art. There are only around 30 galleries, spread out, meaning you have to take a breather as you walk between shows. The neighborhood is mixed-up and interesting; the spaces are small and intimate and call to mind the DIY early East Village. Galleries aren't better because they're here or worse because they're in Chelsea—and in a few years, the Lower East Side may be saturated. For now, however, it's lovely.