

REYES | FINN

CULTURED

ART

A CONDO TOUR WITH WALTER ROBINSON

A SMALL COLLECTION OF NEW YORK GALLERIES ARE HOSTING THEIR FRIENDS FROM OUT OF TOWN FOR CONDO 2019. EXECUTIVE EDITOR SARA ROFFINO TAKES A WALKING TOUR OF THE SHOWS WITH ARTIST AND CRITIC WALTER ROBINSON.

SARA ROFFINO

07.11.2019



NICK DOYLE, NO VACANCY, 2019. INSTALL VIEW. COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND 56 HENRY.

When I arrive at 56 Henry to meet the painter and critic Walter Robinson for our tour of Condo, I'm 10 minutes late. He's already had a popsicle with Ellie Rines, who runs 56 Henry, and Terese Reyes, whose Detroit-based Reyes Finn gallery is showing new works by Nick Doyle at 56 Henry for this summer's iteration of the itinerant gallery exchange program. I met Walter in 2014, but my first memory of a conversation with him was a year later at a book signing for his exhibition catalogue *Paintings and Other Indulgences* at Max Fish. I asked him to sign my book and as he was doing so, he said something about how I shouldn't bother writing about art and instead I should go into financial management. Mostly I was flattered that he even knew I had ever written anything and I obviously didn't take his advice.

I hadn't seen Walter in a few months when I asked him to walk around with me and share his thoughts on Condo. I was a little nervous when he started off along East Broadway saying, "I used to care about other people's art, but now I don't." Nonetheless, he was gracious enough to share some thoughts. Follow along for the highlights of our LES Condo tour.

NICK DOYLE AT REYES FINN HOSTED BY 56 HENRY

CULTURED: So, what do you think of these?

ROBINSON: They make me think about this new Hal Foster book, *Bad New Days*. One of the things he thinks is happening is that artists are leaving the realm of the textual and going out into the world. It's part of the new realism. Art can't be about art anymore, it has to be about things in the world, the paintings as turning into actual things. The impulse to make the painting—

CULTURED: Is becoming the actual thing. It's like the materialization of the art object.

ROBINSON: The re-materialization. But they're also very neat and very skilled.

CULTURED: It's all denim?

REYES: It's all wood and denim.

ROBINSON: It's good that it's not canvas, it fits my idea better. I'm seeing a kind of blue jean here. Did you drive a Ford? I used to have a Ford. Those are Marlboro Lights, right?

REYES: Yeah.

ROBINSON: This guy and I have the same subjects. I've made a still life of cigarette packs, and I drive a Ford. We're on the same team.

Terese Reyes
terese@reyesfinn.com
310 487 5436

Bridget Finn
bridget@reyesfinn.com
313 204 7814

1500 Trumbull Ave.
Detroit, MI 48216
www.reyesfinn.comGallery

Hours: Tuesday–Saturday
12pm–6pm
248 839 5342