

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

Ablaze With Art: Thriving Galleries in Lower Manhattan

Will Heinrich heads to TriBeCa, where new galleries keep popping up and strong shows abound.

Mary Carlson

Through Oct. 31. Kerry Schuss, 73 Leonard Street, Manhattan; kerryschussgallery.com.



Mary Carlson's "Eden Trees (after Bruegel)," 2020, glazed porcelain. Mary Carlson and Kerry Schuss

A miniature is a refuge from the trials of real life, an otherworldly little kingdom you can enter with your eyes. But the palm-size landscapes in the ceramist Mary Carlson's "Eden," most of them sourced from the peripheries of old master paintings, are different. "Eden Trees (after Bruegel)," a thick brown puddle of desert under a cluster of lumpy trees, is precisely rendered and shiny with glaze; "Eden (after Cranach)" features a trim little cave perfect for some tiny hermit; and in "Reservoir Blue Hills," the only piece from life, the land is even more luscious blue than the water. Weaving around the low white pedestals that these nine little patches of paradise reside on, you may suspect that the Kingdom of Heaven, while surely at hand, is in need of some protection.
