

Art on the Avenue

Some single blocks host a museum's worth of art

In New York, art is nothing if not convenient. Some single streets feature more art galleries than other whole towns. Here, we look at how very much is on view on just two city blocks: East 66th and 67th streets, which is something of a headquarters for Old Masters and fine furniture dealers, and East 78th and 79th streets, which features a more eclectic 20th-century mix.

More information on Madison Avenue galleries, which are hosting a series of special events this weekend, can be found at www.madisonavenuegallerywalk.com, www.madisonpromenade.com and www.masterworksofsixcenturies.com. —Alexandra Peers

David Tunick

19 East 66th Street

This destination drawings gallery is showing the works of caricaturist and painter Honoré Daumier. This sweeping show—Mr. Tunick says he's been squirreling away pieces for years for it—features 500 prints by the Frenchman, whose life spanned much of the 19th century and whose satiric wit was often directed at the more shallow of his contemporaries. Think *New Yorker* cartoons, by way of a famous artist.

Friedman & Vallois

27 East 67th Street

In February 2009, at the sale of the Yves Saint Laurent collection, Cheska Vallois, an art dealer and a co-owner of this gallery, paid \$28 million for an armchair by Paris-based designer Eileen Gray, a record price for any chair. So this is no bargain basement, but it has exquisitely beautiful objects. The gallery specializes in Art Deco furniture, sculpture and fine design objects.



Simon Dickinson Gallery

19 East 66th Street

This ambitious gallery, which counts among its clients the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, handles art ranging from the Old Masters through to the present. Its spring show surprisingly favors the 21st

century, featuring Olafur Eliasson (he of last summer's waterfalls in the East River), Spencer Finch and James Turrell. The show includes a giant kaleidoscope by Mr. Eliasson.

Didler Aaron

32 East 67th Street

Three generations of the Aaron family have been in the art and antiques gallery business, first in Paris and now at this New York satellite. What's on the walls stretches further back: The spring show is of paintings, by famous names and otherwise, from the 1600s.

Phoenix Ancient Art

47 East 66th Street

On view: relics of Rome and Greece. The New York branch of this Geneva gallery stocks a wide selection of work—idols, bronzes, pendants—that dates back centuries. There's also a smattering of Etruscan pieces, ancient art from Italy's Tuscany region.

L&M Arts

45 East 78th Street

Art always looks better in a townhouse than in a museum, and L&M Arts here puts Alexander Calder sculptures by the staircase and Yves Tanguy paintings on the mantel; it's as if Peggy Guggenheim, who collected the works of both, was going to sweep in any minute and throw a dinner party.



Skarstedt Fine Art

20 East 79th Street

In 1990, an artist named Mike Kelley exhibited 11 works at downtown gallery Metro Pictures, all featuring brightly colored stuffed animals arranged on blankets. In the years since, he's become famous in the art world with his solo shows about childhood, commodity and trauma, at the Whitney Museum and the Louvre, among others. This uptown show brings together most of his 1990 series, this time in advance of a retrospective at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

Van de Weghe Fine Art

1018 Madison Avenue

It's a Keith Haring Show. With street artists like Banksy and Shepard Fairey gaining worldwide attention



(there's even a shout-out to Mr. Fair-ey's famous *Hope* poster in *Iron Man 2*), their artistic godfather, the graffitist Mr. Haring, could also rise in historical prominence and value.

Michelle Rosenfeld Gallery

16 East 79th Street

This quiet UES gallery is now in its



Alexander Calder's *Peacock* at L&M Arts, and Keith Haring's *Untitled*, 1985 (below).

30th year, and its spring show is a best-of, with works by Willem de Kooning, Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, among others.

Alaska on Madison

1065 Madison Avenue

The works here are far from home and easy to collect. Prices start below \$1,000 at this gallery near 80th Street; it is showing Alaskan artifacts and art from the Northwest Coast, including 19th-century Inuit art, carvings and wall hangings, among other offerings.

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Honoré Daumier's *Transronain St.*, the

15th of April, 1834, at David Tunick

(below), *Your Regrettable View*, 2000,

by Olafur Eliasson (far left), and

Installation view of L&M Arts Gallery.