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GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART

GALLERIES—CHELSEA

JACK WHITTEN

This capsule survey of works made between 1974 and 2007 spotlights an artist who has helped to radicalize abstract painting without ever lifting a brush. A quartet of recent, mosaic-like canvases look like experiments with bathroom tile, but they're actually composed of little squares of cast acrylic paint (sparkles are the result of pulverized compact disks). A suite of smeary, black-and-white drawings from the mid-nineteen-seventies have an eerily photographic effect—they could be portraits of afterglow. Turns out they were made from photocopier toner, while Whitten was an artist-in-residence at Xerox. Through Oct. 20. (Gray, 526 W. 26th St. 212-399-2636.)