GAGOSIAN



Three exhibitions to see in New York this weekend From righteous indignation to interactive play

Helen Stoilas, Nancy Kenney and Ivy Olesen



Installation view of Urs Fischer: PLAY at Gagosian © Urs Fischer; courtesy of Gagosian

Take a seat—or not. The ordinary-looking office chairs in Urs Fischer's PLAY, at Gagosian Gallery on 21st Street (until 13 October), might seem like the kind you roll across your cubicle. But they are actually robotic sculptures that are programmed to behave in reaction to the visitors in the gallery. Walk towards one and you might find it shies away from you; stand watching their uncanny movements for too long and you might find a group slowly turn and head your way in a Hitchcockian scene. "The chairs choreograph you as you choreograph the chairs," Fischer told us, adding that the idea for the show came out of his "frustrations" with art. "You want art to do more than it does," he said. "I want it to give me a little more." So, with a team of software engineers and the choreographer and artist Madeline Hollander, Fischer conceived of this interactive installation, which comes with a big, block-lettered warning: "COLLISIONS MAY OCCUR."