METRO PICTURES

Smith, Roberta. "Museum and Gallery Listings," The New York Times (April 29, 2010): C20.

The New York Times

ANDRÉ BUTZER, 'NICHT FÜRCHTEN! DON'T BE SCARED!';

closes on Saturday. In his second gallery solo in New York, this young German painter continues the cartoonizing exploration of 1980s Neo-Expressionism, but here with thicker paint and noticeable improvement. In the most characteristic works, Ensor's giant stingray, Bacon's side of beef or a bright blue cousin of Casper the Friendly Ghost are slapped onto bright patchwork abstractions. Other works broach pure abstraction and even the dreaded monochrome, rendered as a thick, loamlike field of black that seems ready for plowing. There is nothing to be afraid of here, but Mr. Butzer has definitely increased interest in what he does next. Metro Pictures, 519 West 24th Street, Chelsea, (212) 206-7100, metropicturesgallery.com. (Smith)