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REPORTING & ESSAYS

ARTS & CULTURE

HUMOR

FICTION & POETRY

THE TALK OF THE TOWN

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GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART

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GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

“NAMELESS SCIENCE”

Doctoral programs are proliferating in art schools, and Apex Art presents seven PhD projects that marry academic research with sculpture, video, and installation. Unfortunately, this makes for a lacklustre show. Matts Leiderstam, from the Malmo School of Art, offers a slide show of eighteenth-century landscape prints, next to a laptop on which viewers can navigate a fifty-seven-page essay about technological intervention and the picturesque. Ricardo Basbaum, of the Universidade de Estado de Rio de Janeiro, presents video of groups artfully interacting with a boat-shaped construction—using it as a drum and a goldfish pond, among other things. They appear to be having fun—more, in fact, than the visitors to the show, who may feel as if they were looking through the wrong end of the conceptual telescope. Through Jan. 31. (291 Church St. 212-431-5270.)