Alexander and Bonin

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ART GALLERIES DOWNTOWN

REE MORTON

Three very different solo shows inaugurate the gallery's spacious new Tribeca location, but the idiosyncratic post-minimalist Ree Morton, who died at age forty in 1977, takes center stage. Her hybrid handmade works—painting and sculpture are one and the same here—fill the ground floor with restless energy. "For Kate," produced in 1976, bursts from a corner, its cavalierly painted streamers and roses evoking a festive trifecta: embroidery, valentines, and a birthday cake. Morton's incorporation of girlish crafts into her decidedly conceptual practice is not without irony, but unabashed sensuality and refreshing sincerity rule. Downstairs, Mark Morrisroe's sulky nudes and still-lifes from the early eighties—the photographer died in 1989, at the age of thirty—are smudged windows into his queer-punk demimonde. Willie Doherty's video installation "Passage," from 2006, adds a note of intensity, as two men walk toward one another at night with a freeway's roar providing the soundtrack to their fleeting encounter.

Through Dec. 22.

Alexander and Bonin 47 Walker St. Downtown 212-367-7474