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ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

The 10 Most Inspiring Young Artists In NYC Right Now

APR 17, 2012 6:30 AM
BY JULIA BAINBRIDGE



"I've been thinking about this shadow." This is the kind of thing you'll hear from Jessica Dickinson. Her aim is to take "the minor events on the side of life and make them into major events," she says. "I'm not a complete Luddite, but I do get — and we get — overwhelmed with a lot of information. The media is saturated with images, but when a slow something happens in the corner, we don't see it. I'm trying to bring attention to that thing." Go to her studio and you'll see that Dickinson only uses an 8x8-foot square of it to paint in. In the rest of the space, her work hangs on the walls, or is stapled to the floor for observation or for picking. Yes, picking. Dickinson painstakingly hand-paints concentric circles on a canvas and paints over it. Then she'll crack open the canvas and re-plaster it together. Then she'll pick at it, walk on it maybe, leave holes in it. All of this can take upward of a year, so that "each painting goes through a series of events."

Dickinson, who was a guard at the Met when she first moved to New York in 1999, now teaches at RISD and is preparing for a show in Madrid. "I want people to walk away with a slowed down experience."

Click through to see [more of Jessica Dickinson's work](#).

Photographed by Tom Hines.