

# Galleries

MARTHA SCHWENDENER

## Meredith James

Through Dec. 13. Marinaro,  
1 Rivington Street, Manhattan;  
212-989-7700, marinaro.biz.

Meredith James's show at Marinaro, "The Exit," showcases a monument of contemporary architecture — or anti-architecture, really: the contemporary office, lined with cubicles and made famous in comic television shows like "The Office."

Working spaces reflect contemporary life, like the empty offices during the pandemic that inspired James's photographs and sculptures, but they also are descended from modernist aesthetics. The white cube gallery for displaying groundbreaking modern art became the white cubicle, the place where your laboring spirit goes to die.

Rather than heap scorn on the white-cubicle office, however, James took a larger mirror with her to shoot inside an empty office in New York. The mirror created fun-house reflections — literally, new angles to the office. From these crisp, kaleidoscopic photographs, James then created wall-relief dioramas filled with exquisite handmade details, including water-stained drop ceilings and exit signs.

As remote work threatens to turn many cubicle workplaces into empty offices, James's project feels like a document memorializing the phenomenon: Last exit, the office.



MEREDITH JAMES AND MARINARO, NEW YORK

"North 70° East (Low Wall, T-Shaped Wall)" (2021), an inkjet print that is part of Meredith James's show "The Exit," at Marinaro.

# Art Gallery Shows to See in December

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By **Martha Schwendener**

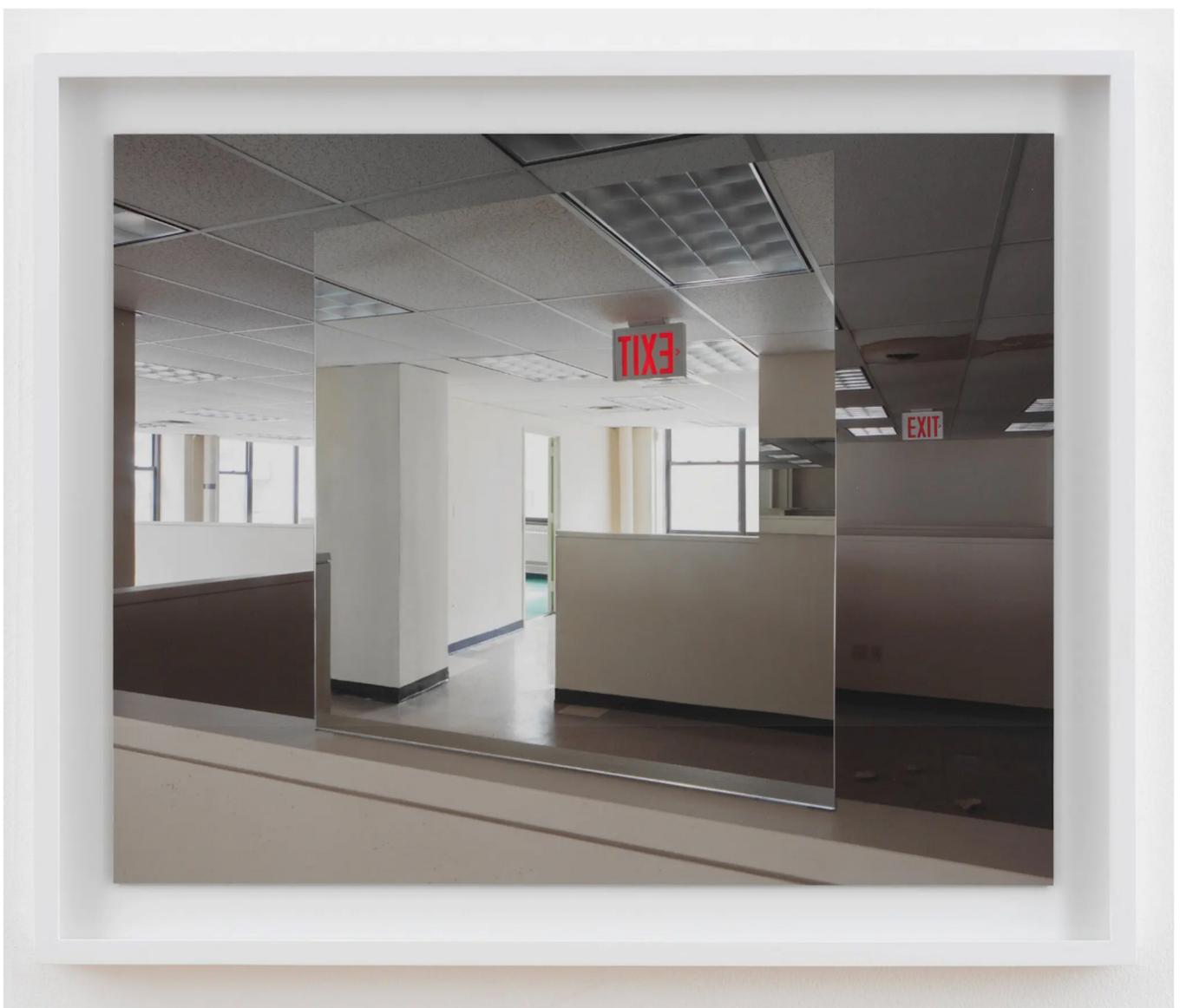
Dec. 4, 2025

*This week in Newly Reviewed, Martha Schwendener covers Meredith James’s anti-architecture monument, Franz Gertsch’s take on Patti Smith, Ragnar Kjartansson’s postcard ode, Analivia Cordeiro’s merging bodies and Guanyu Xu’s hovering photos.*

LOWER EAST SIDE

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Through Dec. 13. Marinaro, 1 Rivington Street; 212-989-7700, [marinaro.biz](http://marinaro.biz).



Meredith James, “North 70° East (Low Wall, T-Shaped Wall),” 2021, inkjet print. via Meredith James and Marinaro, New York

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