BROADWAY

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ART FAIR REVIEW

An Embarrassment of Style at the Independent

This year's fair is in overdrive, with exhibitors taking big swings in dozens of directions. Use our critic's personal playlist to find your way around the floor.

By: Will Heinrich, May 9, 2024



Jessie Henson, "Falling on water (the sage one)," 2024. Credit...via Broadway

Jessie Henson uses an industrial sewing machine to apply closely set lines of thread to paper that she then adorns with metallic leaf. The process both causes the paper to buckle and fixes its buckling in place, making every sculptural, sensual, sometimes tortured-looking undulation an integral part of each piece. Altogether the work offers a compelling combination of texture, eccentricity and discreet subversion of art-historical categories. Even the most jaded art-world intellectual should feel comfortable enjoying the pretty colors, most of which Henson seems to have borrowed from a private cache of vintage shag rugs.