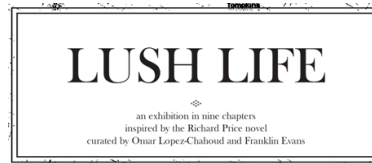


[Weekend Guide »](#)**June 26th, 2010****L.E.S. Weekend Gallery Picks**

We asked [Jonathan Durham](#), an artist and the Director of Visual Arts at [Abrons Art Center](#), to pick some current shows on the Lower East Side that he thinks are worth seeing. Here is what he had to say:



I have four words in advance of the July 8th concurrent openings of 9 participating galleries on the LES: "Go Experience [LUSH LIFE](#)."

Take your friends, visit all nine galleries, read Richard Price's [book](#), be haunted.

The exhibition schedule varies slightly at each gallery with the earliest installation being June 17 and the latest closing being August 13. There will be a collective opening of all participating galleries on Thursday, July 8th from 6 – 9 pm.



Gilad Ratman (Boggy Man)

There are a great many more shows worth seeing in the neighborhood, and because of this writer's day job, only a few were possible to visit, but I had a lot of fun in the basement of [Ramiken Crucible](#) wading through the gooey relic filled mire of the exhibition *Green Honey*. Curated by **Andrea Cashman** and **Borden Capalino** this exhibition offers up some sculptures, photography and video that land with a muffled thud somewhere in the mind space reserved for shit that you don't want to throw away and are willing to pay the cerebral storage fees for...for years.

I especially like [Gilad Ratman](#)'s video *The Boggy Man* 2008, which allows the viewer to sink in into weird claustrophically edited footage of the Boggy Man – filming himself, sinking himself into a thick, beautiful mud pit. As the Boggy Man grunts, pants, struggles and feigns pleas to the camera like "Help me, I can't get out!" you realize that your own perverse gaze is the helping hand that saves this guy every time.



borden capalino

I also cracked up at the generically menacing jpegs of snakes transferred onto raw canvas in [Borden Capalino's Love Thing](#), 2009. Held to the wall with grommets this piece is hilarious. If you could somehow combine NASCAR with Burmese snake charming, this would be your banner of choice on race day.

**Ramiken Crucible** is located on Clinton (at East Broadway), in the black box down the stairs on the southeast corner.



Carlos Bevilacqua, *Dois*, installation view

If you are out this weekend don't miss **Carlos Bevilacqua**'s beautiful show *Dois* at [Simon Preston Gallery](#) (301 Broome Street). These precisely balanced and perfectly tensioned sculptures (impressively constructed with no welding or adhesives) give physical coordinates to abstract notions of self-awareness and growth.



Andy Coolquitt - we care about you

Another hit that is closing this weekend is [Andy Coolquitt](#)'s exhibition *We Care About You* at [Lisa Cooley](#) (34 Orchard Street). These abstract, mostly linear sculptures are made of joined pipes, broom handles, discarded lighters, beer bottles, straws, crayons, light bulbs, tape and other plastic multi-colored fragments culled from our man-made sea of not-so-luxurious goods. Coolquitt's second show at this gallery is noticeably more humorous, playful, and exuberant, with an elegant mix of discrete fabricated constructions and non-art objects.

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