

ALEXANDRE



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GALLERIES-UPTOWN

VINCENT SMITH

A sampling of paintings and prints created between 1952 and 1972 shows Smith moving from Jacob Lawrence-style social tableaux to a self-consciously raw, Black Arts aesthetic. Most of the later paintings are ghetto scenes in sulfurous oranges, reds, and blacks. Stricken figures glare from barred windows, while a smiling Porky Pig figure suggests the tyrannical benevolence of the establishment. It all seems pretty overwrought until you get to "The Soul Brothers," a scene of sexual intrigue painted with a sinister, comic, and perhaps uncharacteristic delicacy. Through Oct. 11. (Alexandre, 41 E. 57th St. 212-755-2828.)

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