

# BLOUINARTINFO

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VISUAL ARTS

GALLERIES

## 5 Must-See Gallery Shows in New York: Tom of Finland, “Hello Walls,” and More

By Scott Indrisek



“English Summer” at Elizabeth Dee, through August 14 (545 West 20th Street)

United by several common threads — chief among them a home base in the UK — the artists here riff on bodies and unusual materials (marble paired with whipped-cream canister chargers; vacuum-sealed polyurethane foam resembling marshmellowish entrails). Many of the works share the bright, clean appeal of advertising or infographics, but adapted to very different purposes. Nicolas Deshayes “Molars” series resembles strangely cropped outtakes from commercials; a 2009 work by Gilbert & George mocks the style of a PSA, using 12 cheery images of the same ass to warn of how male douching can contribute to HIV infection. Matthew Smith takes photo prints of clothing and overlays it with plastic piping, reducing the interior gunk of human anatomy to so much plumbing. Don’t let the prevailing poppy colors fool you, nor the idyllic-sounding exhibition title: Behind the surface, something a little sinister lurks.