

Call for Entries 2011-2012

As a remix of the old "Thematic and Partial Tours of The New School Art Collection," my project is a curated scavenger hunt through the collection, a new approach in conjunction with the VLC's focus theme, thingness. Instead of looking at images of artworks on your computer screen at home, I invite you to get up close and personal with some of the artworks in the collection. Experience them fully as things that share your space, things that line the hallways as you rush to class, things that adorn your favorite corner by the elevator, or things you've never even noticed in the public thoroughfares on the university's campus. Upon completion of the hunt, you'll be prepared to write a text about one artwork in particular that struck you, or made its thingness appealing or apparent. Submit your entry to vlc@newschool.edu for the chance to be honored at a special ceremony, featured in a funky publication and showered with prize money!

The VLC is uniquely situated at a crossroads, charged with presenting exciting public programming on pressing socio-political issues to an ever-growing and ever-busy audience in New York City. The center has the distinct privilege of access to The New School Art Collection, world-class holdings on permanent public display, and the fortune to honor talented New School students in our annual Writing Award. For this reason, the thingness hunt will serve both as a guide for students who plan on submitting work for the writing award, as well as a curated look at a segment of the collection aimed at a wider audience and available for free download from this website.

Sonia Louise Davis
Summer Curatorial Intern 2011

Hunting for Thingness in The New School Art Collection

thingness: (n) the quality of a material thing; objectivity; actuality; reality; the quality or state of objective existence

Ok hunter gatherers, go out and find some things! Within The New School Art Collection's 1,800+ artworks, a lucky 16 have been selected for their relevance to thingness. Locations, detail thumbnails and short clues will guide you on your hunt for thingness within the Art Collection, but no artists' names or work titles are provided. Follow the clues below, considering how and why the artwork may engage or comment on thingness. To successfully locate an item, read its description carefully as there are most likely several artworks present at each location. Take time to stop and sit with each artwork you visit. Keep in mind that the keywords provided are a lens to examine the artwork, not an obligatory checklist. Seeing is subjective, there is no one right way to read a work of art. Above all, enjoy this opportunity to revisit part of The New School's expansive public collection. Good luck!

Start in the *lobby* of **55 West 13th Street**, find:

A mud and metal chandelier that references geopolitical conflict through twisting, organic forms.

Walk up the stairs to the *2nd floor* and look out for:

A reconsideration of the symbolic weight of history and national identity in a familiar fabric.

A photograph that interrogates our destructive relationship to the natural environment and to each other.

Now go to the *5th floor*, and discover:

A primary candy landscape by a wire-master.

Head over to **66 Fifth Avenue**. In the lobby, behind the guards' desk, have a seat with:

A concrete sculpture that critiques kitchy Americana and its entrenchment in a legacy of visual violence.

Next, skip over to **72 Fifth Avenue**, and take the elevator up to the *3rd floor*. Walk around the offices until you find: An additive wooden sculpture imbued with practical, symbolic and decorative meaning

Jump up to the *4th floor*. Look for:

A portrait of a person in fiber.

A color photograph that expresses emotional, physical and figural containment.

Make your way to **66 West 12th Street**, and stop to relax in the *Vera List Atrium & Courtyard*. Don't miss: An ergonomic arrangement of hats in various materials.

Head up to the *3rd floor*. Find:

A portrait study of leafy greens in black and white.

Now up to the *4th floor*. Can you find, both:

A pun in print that plays with language graphically, highlighting duality of form and representation.

And: A conceptual photograph that references the absent human form, obliquely and in text.

Head across the skybridge, and end up at **65 West 11th Street**. Go upstairs to the *5th floor*, *Wollman Hall*, and look out for: A gestalt of letters in instant prints.

Take the stairs to the *3rd floor*, and near the bathroom, find: A vivid depiction of an object submerged in fluid.

Walk over to **6 East 16th Street**. On the ground floor, search for: A still-life in shadows; a formal spin on a tired tabletop subject.

End on the *10th floor*, as you move around the halls, look for: A clash of icons by a Moscow conceptualist.

Congratulate yourself! You've found all the thingy-est things in the New School Art Collection!

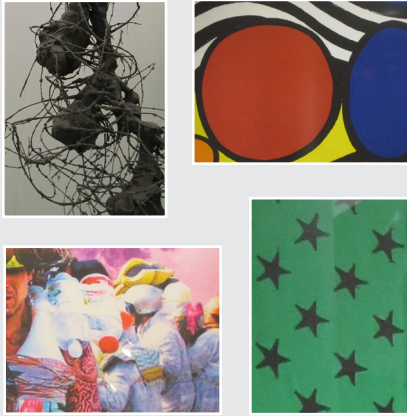
Check the VLC website for updates on submitting www.veralistcenter.org/writingawards and be sure to send in your entries by February 21, 2012.

THE VERA LIST NEW SCHOOL

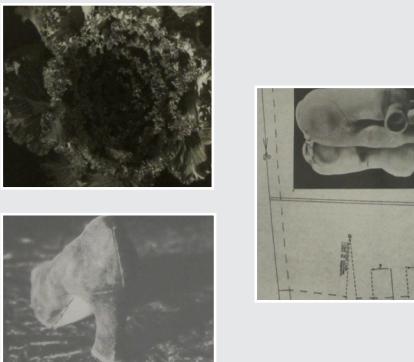
Art Collection

Writing Awards!

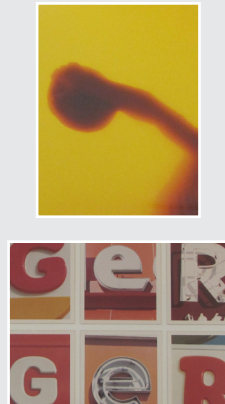
55 West 13th St.



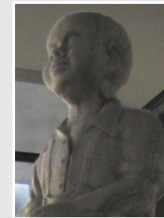
66 West 12th St.



65 West 11th St.



66 Fifth Ave.



6 East 16th St.



72 Fifth Ave.

