

# The New York Times

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## As Chelsea Expands, a Host of Visions Rush In

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By ROBERTA SMITH

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**T**HIS much is certain: the art world will have Chelsea to kick around for a few seasons more, at least. Everyone loves to complain about New York's newest art destination. It's too far from everything, especially subways. There aren't enough places to eat, especially cheaply. There's too much concrete, much of it indoors.

Still, last month's issue of the Gallery Guide lists more than 170 galleries in the area. If the influx suggests a lemminglike failure of imagination, as the area expands it is also diversifying. Yes, there is the Gagosian Gallery multiplex, with two and three big names on the marquee at once, and another bruiser, PaceWildenstein, is to open a Chelsea branch in September. But this season four of New York's oldest

The works at Sepia show Ms. Singh, who began her career as a photojournalist, chafing at the limits of her medium. Her photographs of the temples at Angkor Wat use double exposures to depict monks having mystical experiences. They look forced and sentimental, and especially suffer in the company of Ketaki Sheth's mesmerizing images of twins, which are subtle studies in individuality, and Annu Palakunathu Matthew's ravishing yet unprepossessing photographs of Indian landscapes and workaday objects.