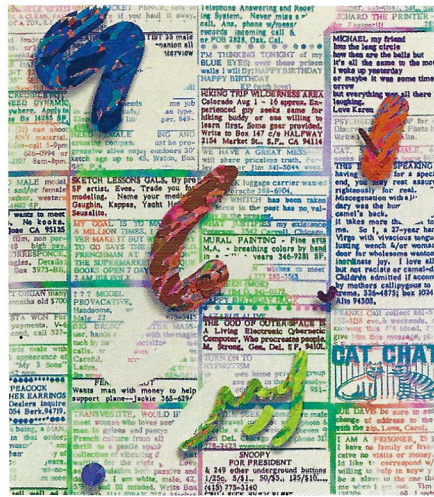


Gallery Solo Show of the Year

12 PAINTINGS BY LAURA OWENS



356 S. Mission Rd., Los Angeles

Shown at the L.A.-based artist's own gallery-cum-community-center, these large-scale works have all the trademarks of Owens's increasingly diverse approach: a forceful graphic impulse, a flickering figural sweetness and a jumbled juxtaposition of styles. The compositions are beguilingly cohesive, despite Owens's tendency to explore many of painting's immense possibilities simultaneously. In these outsize, cartoonish works, she uses humor to rebut the naysayers praying for painting to die another death. As the artist recently told *The Believer*, "I feel no shame about having paintings be as grandiose and ridiculous as possible." There is nothing ridiculous about being the best.

