

POSTMASTERS

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THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN: ART

STEVE MUMFORD / MONICA COOK

After losing its lease in Chelsea, the long-standing Postmasters gallery has reopened in a large space near City Hall. Mumford, a gifted painter once embedded with the military in Iraq, shows unnervingly delicate watercolors made at Guantánamo Bay: a maudlin rainbow streams over the Office of Military Commissions, and a courtroom scene, which the artist observes behind glass, bears the black gashes of the military censor. Cook, a sculptor with a rococo streak, has produced a darkly humorous *tableau vivant* of death and ritual, featuring a beaded, spangled cow lounging on a litter that's pulled by similarly blinged-out chickens. Her work calls to mind the metastasizing detail of David Altmejd's art and the personal mythologies of Joseph Beuys or Matthew Barney. Through Nov. 23.

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