

Opinion (<https://news.artnet.com/opinion>)

## At the Whitney, John Divola Snaps Painting's Corpse

THE DAILY PIC: Is Divola showing post-mortem shots of painting, or photos brought to life by the ancient medium?

Blake Gopnik (<https://news.artnet.com/about/blake-gopnik-86>), March 21, 2017



**THE DAILY PIC** (#1755, Whitney Biennial Edition): This photo is from a series of works by John Divola now filling a room of their own in the Whitney's latest survey of American art. After finding a dumpster full of discarded student paintings, Divola decided to hang them in various abandoned buildings and take their photographs.

Divola's crummy found canvases look like a decent symbol of painting's oft-announced death – the still-warm corpse of the victim, as it were, photographed at the murder site. But they also seem to have enough vigor left to bring new life to the near-dead trope of the photo of ruins. *(Image courtesy Maccarone Gallery, New York and Los Angeles, and Gallery Luisotti, Santa Monica, CA)*

For a full survey of past Daily Pics visit [blakegopnik.com/archive](http://blakegopnik.com/archive) (<http://t.umbl.com/redirect?z=http%3A%2F%2Fblakegopnik.com%2Farchive&t=OTIzOWNkNTE1OGUyNTA4MzQ2MTY3ZjhmMGRiODliMGQxMzA3MDQ3ZixjdFBLWEgzVw%3D%3D&b=from-my-daily-pic-of-oct-9-2015-to&m=1>).

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# The Whitney Biennial: 'Pleasant' Should Count as a Rave in Our Troubled Age

THE DAILY PIC: The 2017 Whitney Biennial leaves visitors more sprightly than at earlier ones.

**Blake Gopnik** (<https://news.artnet.com/about/blake-gopnik-86>), March 20, 2017