

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ART

APRIL 7, 2008

MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM

Fifth Ave. at 82nd St. (212-535-7710)—**“Poussin and Nature: Arcadian Visions.”** Through May 11. | **“Gustave Courbet.”** Through May 18. | **“Jasper Johns: Gray.”** Through May 4. | **“Lee Friedlander: A Ramble in Olmsted Parks.”** Through May 11. | **“Anatomy of a Masterpiece: How to Read Chinese Paintings.”** Through Aug. 10. (Open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9:30 to 5:30, and Friday and Saturday evenings until 9.)

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 W. 53rd St. (212-708-9400)—**“Color Chart: Reinventing Color, 1950 to Today”** is a smartly analytical show that, in the words of the curator, Ann Temkin, tracks “chance, readymade sources, or arbitrary systems” in uses of color by about forty contemporary artists. Duchampian strategies predominate. Is it perverse to regard color, the most emotionally affecting of visual phenomena, with impersonal cool? It is, and that’s the kick: all power to the hardboiled intellect. Fortuitously blunting the show’s thrust are the irrepressible talents of true colorists. Even in cold blood, Ellsworth Kelly, Andy Warhol, Dan Flavin, and Blinky Palermo can’t help nourishing the heart, through the hue-hungry eye. Through May 12. | **“Design and the Elastic Mind.”** Through May 12. | **“Jan De Cock: Denkmal 11.”** Through April 14. (Open Wednesdays through Mondays, 10:30 to 5:30, and Friday evenings until 8.)



Alexey Titarenko’s photograph “Untitled, San Marco, 2001,” at Nailya Alexander.

GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM