

**February 6, 2007**

**Leah Tinari at Mixed Greens**



Leah Tinari *Enjoying the Hose Down* 2006 acrylic on canvas 48" x 68"

That's just hot.

Leah Tinari's show at Mixed Greens, "**We Could Definitely Run for the Presidency**", closes on Saturday, and that's a shame, because West 26th Street just won't be the same when it's gone. "Enjoying the Hose Down" is currently the hottest piece of art on the block, and it's visible outside the gallery or even from across the street. In fact the fresh crisp lines and shapes of Tinari's cartoon-like paintings, their backgrounds variously washed in white or black light, read as well from fifty feet as from fifty inches.

The most common subject of what I have to describe as her increasingly-mature work is the artist's own family and friends, gathered together mostly in lusty parties. Captured originally in snapshots, their merriment is transformed by an unlikely combination of paint strokes both lush and neat into hugely-seductive acrylic *cartoons* more colorful and alive than the work of either a camera or any ordinary brush.

This old dude is thinking he wants to be in there with the rest of the party, even if he's actually looking into the hysterical eye of a bridal shower or the beery scrum of a group of maturing frat-boys. Or maybe because.

**Posted by james at February 6, 2007 7:40 PM**

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