

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN: ART

ERICA BAUM

The artist continues to explore the extra-literary pleasures of text. Vintage paperbacks are the subjects of her latest images, but here pictures eclipse words. Working at close range, Baum frames a section of fanned-out pages, reducing the book to a series of thin vertical slices. Images peek out from a curtain-like array of pages with brightly tinted edges; some are recognizable (Monica Vitti, Jean Moreau, a Scottish terrier), but others are too truncated to decipher. All are casually allusive—and oddly sexy. Forget the Kindle; Baum reminds us that the physicality of a book is a big part of its power to seduce. Through Oct. 21.