

THE NEW YORKER

MARCH 5, 2001

DAVID DUPUIS

These deceptively simple drawings tackle themes of mortality with a mixture of goofiness and grace. The centerpiece, "Carnal Knowledge," is a large grid made up of hundreds of small ink drawings mounted on canvas. Each portrays a gleaming organic object that looks strangely familiar, like Chinese scholar's rocks dispensed from a gum-ball machine. (Their shiny delicacy also recalls the bubbles meant to symbolize transience in Flemish still-life painting.) In "Born Again," Dupuis breathes new life into a shapeless graphite blob with the simple addition of a slit for the mouth and two dots for eyes—the shroud of Turin meets Mr. Potato-Head. Through March 10. (Eller, 526-30 W. 25th St. 206-6411.)