

# Art in America

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## Karl Wirsum

at Derek Eller,  
through Nov. 16  
615 W. 27th St.

As one of the original Chicago Imagists and a founding member of the Hairy Who, Wirsum is known for outlandish and unnerving figure paintings and creepy, cartoonish drawings. In the large paintings of the past decade on view in this show, such as *Eye Adjustment* (2012) and *Unmixedly at Ease* (2004), the garish colors and grotesque figures are as provocative and extreme as ever. However, in each of these hard-edge compositions, featuring a refined drawing style and careful balance of abstract shapes, the monstrous figures yield to the work's masterful formal elegance.

