

# JASON MCCOY GALLERY

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## The New York Times



*Other Place 12, 2013, Acrylic, gesso and ink on canvas, 16 x 12 in.*

### GLENN GOLDBERG: 'OTHER PLACES' BY ROBERTA SMITH

The 31 paintings in Glenn Goldberg's latest show all measure 16 by 12 inches. Not only smaller but also less abstract, symmetrical and fastidious than many of his recent efforts, they suggest a new freedom in the art of this slightly under-the-radar painter.

The paintings remind us that the personal is often implicitly multicultural. They might be pages from a medieval bestiary illuminated by a time-traveling monk who has cribbed from Indian paintings, Tantric mandorla and ritual sand paintings as well as heraldic banners, sky maps, modern cartoons and modernist abstraction.

The dog-lion that floats through many of these paintings could be inspired by a childhood pet, or by more ancient creatures guarding a temple or looking for St. Jerome. Not much can be nailed down. In keeping with the show's title, eye and mind are constantly rerouted to "Other Places." Although not always: The silhouette of a rabbit's rounded head and ears is mainly redolent of chocolate-covered marshmallow and Easter.

In these works, Mr. Goldberg has abandoned his radiant color and elaborated into a rich grisaille the grays and whites that often lurk behind them. He continues to build his images from infinitesimal dots that give the works an ambiguous, almost celestial ethereality and infuse his surfaces with an air of devotional quiet. But now he often supplements the dots with various excursions into opacity, repeating brush strokes and painterly washes and splatters. These areas add new worlds of possibility to the several that Mr. Goldberg has already claimed for his art.