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Must-see Painting Shows: April 2014

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Back in December, I wrote an article in which I suggested that, after a number of years in which abstraction has been the dominant mode of painting in the "contemporary art world," we might start to see an upswing in image-based painting. It is not exactly a Delphic prophecy, given the way in which today's market driven art world is constantly craving the next best thing, and, I might add, in ever more compressed cycle times. In conducting my monthly survey of commercial gallery shows this month I was struck by the amount of representational work on view, and even more so by the "academic" rigor much of it evinces. There are some examples of what I am talking about on this list, and many others can be seen on the NAP/BLOG.

In Miami, Jenny Brillhart's studio landscapes can be seen at Emerson Dorsch. Trained at the New York Academy of Art, Brillhart is deeply concerned with the language and practice of painting. In New York City, be sure to check out *New American Paintings'* alum Alison Blicke's solo debut at Kravets|Wehby, and the exquisite work -- which is rarely seen in the United States - of mature German painter Peter



Left: Installation shot of Coffee Table - 4 x 8'
Above: Detail from Breadboard
Oil paint and mixed media on drywall