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Mathew Cerletty

This

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172 East 2nd Street

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Mathew Cerletty's *This* is an intimate showcase of nine colored pencil drawings made over the past year. Each drawing, on textured cold-press watercolor paper, reverently depicts an emphatically singular subject. This rubber duckie, this flower pot, this bag of groceries, each presented without context beyond their own wish to connect. The familiar objects feature a rich variety of materials, colors and forms that keep the eye searching for visual and conceptual rhymes, like a puzzle with evolving logic. Two of the works, a female pelvis and a model human heart, give a glimpse of the bigger picture and hint at the existential weight we're all feeling. In a world of relentless urgency, doesn't it make sense to reach for comfort in something simple and beautiful and correct? There's sanctuary in Cerletty's exactitude: the perfect yellow, the perfect edge, the perfect version of itself. But of course there's no such thing as a line that's true, and the authority of his authorship ultimately gives way to the shifting meanings that surround us.