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'Ten Years'

By ROBERTA SMITH

Wallspace

619 West 27th Street, Chelsea

Through next Friday

Representing 76 artists, this show almost strains at the seams with artworks and high spirits. Resembling a diminutive Whitney Biennial, it celebrates the 10th anniversary of a gallery that has been consistently fresh and ecumenical.

Standouts include Matt Keegan's "Pets," a Richard Prince-like gang of pet snapshots given a buzzy pointillist opticality by two layers of green dots. Donelle Woolford exhibits a joke drawing/collage/painting about Mr. Prince. Erika Vogt contributes a drawing that narrates itself, while Laura Riboli has one that makes itself in an animated video. Shannon Ebner has a terrific large photograph that seems to riff on Christopher Wool's word paintings and Walker Evans's photographs of old signs; while a small photograph of a sort-of collage by Lucas Blalock seems to riff on Robert Mangold's simple abstractions.

It's not clear if Gianna Commito is aware of her debt to Al Held. Martha Friedman's "Olive End" suggests something obscene by Richard Artschwager, but you don't care if it's on purpose or not. Ian Cooper's "Wholesale," a smattering of cutout pink shapes, resembles an unassembled collage. So does Paul Elliman's excellent "Decadence," with its more orderly assortment of found numbers and shapes in white.

Kate Costello does better on paper than in glazed ceramic, and the sculptor Harry Dodge also does more with a two-part foam fashioned into something that resembles a butter churn than with a skateboard. Andrew Kuo shows a geometric abstraction so beautiful you wonder if he might dispense with the explanatory legends, funny as they are.

The many other artists who impress include Ryan Kitson, Brian Sharp, Anne Collier, Wyatt Kahn, Arthur Ou and Helen Verhoeven. The artworks are on the small side, and therefore vulnerable to being labeled art-fair art. They might just as easily be characterized as art made for people with normal budgets and residences who buy art to live with, not to put in storage while its value matures.