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“David Ebony’s Top 10 New York Gallery Shows for July” by David Ebony
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David Ebony's Top 10 New York Gallery Shows for July



Installation view, Niele Toroni, 2015.
Photo: Courtesy of the Swiss Institute.

5. Niele Toroni at Marian Goodman, through July 30; and at the Swiss Institute, through September 6.

For over fifty years, Swiss conceptualist [Niele Toroni](#) has devoted himself to a very specific way of painting. He uses only markings of a single color in any given work and a similar brushstroke repeated in regular spatial intervals 30 centimeters apart. He applies the paint using only a No. 50 paintbrush approximately two inches wide.

[Toroni's](#) seemingly myopic enterprise—akin to that of like-minded and similarly obsessive conceptualists Daniel Buren, André Cadere, and Roman Opalka—turns out to be remarkably versatile. Toroni's personal, yet universal, methodology sustains him; it effectively guides him through the world, and through life.

While Toroni's painting has been well-received internationally for decades, the current exhibition at the Swiss Institute is, surprisingly, the first-ever Toroni survey in New York. The exhibition includes a range of works from those made in the 1960s to a number of site-specific murals created by Toroni specifically for this show.

It begins with a rather imposing 1968 painting of orange markings on polymer-coated fabric, drawn from MoMA's collection, which cascades down the wall and rolls out toward the middle of the floor. This piece corresponds to a hypnotic row of twenty-five nearly identical canvases of similar orange markings on white grounds hung on the opposite wall. [Marian Goodman Gallery](#) shows support for Toroni by presenting recent works on canvas and paper, plus a site-specific mural.