

## 303 GALLERY

Smith, Roberta. "What to See in N.Y.C. Galleries Right Now - Kristin Oppenheim, 303 Gallery", The New York Times, online, February 2, 2022.

# The New York Times

## What to See in N.Y.C. Galleries Right Now

Feb. 2, 2022

*Want to see new art this weekend? Start in Chelsea with Etel Adnan's drawing-like paintings and Kristin Oppenheim's immersive art. Then head to NoHo for spectral canvases by Thomas Sills. And don't miss "Feminism and the Legacy of Surrealism," which covers art works from the 1970s to the present, as well as "Cosmic Geometries," which takes inspiration from tarot cards.*



Installation view of "Kristin Oppenheim, Bang Bang" at 303 Gallery. Kristin Oppenheim and 303 Gallery; Dan Bradica

CHELSEA

### Kristin Oppenheim

Through Feb. 19. 303 Gallery, 555 West 21st Street, Manhattan; 212-255-1121, [303gallery.com](http://303gallery.com)

Kristin Oppenheim started making immersive art in the early 1990s, some time before "immersive" became a tired art-world buzzword. Her sound and sound/video pieces were always spare, subtle, even Minimalist. You had to be still and find the immersion within before the larger one emerged. Oppenheim's primary sound has been her own voice: singing a cappella versions of pop songs whose music and meanings she manipulates for her own purposes. Previous appropriations include "Sail On, Sailor," "Hey Joe" and "Where Did You Sleep Last Night."

In "Bang Bang," Oppenheim's first New York solo since 2002, Nancy Sinatra's 1966 cover of "Bang Bang (My Baby Shot Me Down)," inspires a sound/video piece. The crucial phrase has been reversed to "I shot you down," implying female agency but also the casual violence of our time. Meanwhile, on a large screen, oddly shaped fragments of light rapidly flash and mutate across a deep blue background. The lights suggest highly irregular stars, streetlights, or both, blurring, perhaps, in the eyes of someone who has been shot and is lying on the sidewalk. **ROBERTA SMITH**