

The Emerging Asian Artists by Charlie Schultz

U Can't Touch Dis: The New Asian Art

ZONE: CONTEMPORARY ART

41 W 57th St, New York, NY 10019

September 6, 2007 - October 13, 2007

With the surging hype of contemporary Asian art weeks away from its autumnal crest on the auction blocks, Eric Shiner's latest curatorial endeavor, *U Can't Touch Dis: New Asian Art*, offers a taste of the generation to follow the first international Asian art superstars. Well here's the news: New Asian Art isn't much about Asia anymore.

These artists cross the boundaries of culture, race, and class the way criminals cross state-lines, with extreme intent in a subtle disguise.



The typically stagnant pool of sound in a gallery is rocked by the waves of the experimental Japanese

band Satanicpornocultshop. Kenyan born (but from Indian parents) Brendan Fernandes has an edition of decoy deer sporting eggshell white African tribal masks standing around the space that are both loaded with cultural symbolism and just plain goofy. And if you've ever been fucked by the airlines you'll get a kick out of the playfully graphic photo collages of Young Chung.



What's refreshing about this exhibition is the sense of authenticity in the artistic pursuit of the emerging artist. This is the first time for most of these artists to show in New York and, as is always the case with the new kids, there's a good chance you're going to find something in them you love.

(*Images, from top to bottom: Toby Barnes, *U Can't Touch Dis: The New Asian Art*, September 6 - October 13, 2007, *Sacred Meditations I*, oil on canvas, 2007, 32 x 52 in, Courtesy of Toby Barnes and ZONE: Chelsea Center for the Arts, 2007. Young Chung, *U Can't Touch Dis: The New Asian Art*, September 6 - October 13, 2007, *Double Penetration (American)*, lightjet print, 2003/2007, 30 x 24 in, Edition 1 of 3, Courtesy of Young Chung and ZONE: Chelsea Center for the Arts, 2007.)

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