## THE NEW YORKER



NOVEMBER 7, 2011

## GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

## HELEN MIRRA

The Chicago conceptualist joins the ranks of contemporary artists, from Richard Long to Francis Alÿs, who fuse subject and method by walking. During a recent residency in Stockholm, Mirra filled her backpack with pieces of raw linen, oil pastels, and graphite, and took to the hills, making impressions of the rocks she encountered while hiking (she calls the process "paced printmaking"). Eight examples, all but one made over the course of a single day, are here: loose taupe sheets, creased like unfolded maps and spotted with earthy brown and green silhouettes. Mirra touches on big themes—the interdependence of people and nature, the passage of time-without draining them of their mysteries. No small feat. Through Nov. 12. (Freeman, 560 Broadway, at Prince St. 212-966-5154.)