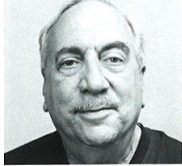


# ARTFORUM

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## VINCE ALETTI

VINCE ALETTI, A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE *NEW YORKER*, *PHOTOGRAPH*, AND *APERTURE*, IS CURRENTLY WRITING A BOOK ON PHOTOGRAPHY IN FASHION MAGAZINES FOR PHAIDON. (SEE CONTRIBUTORS.)

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**"THE COFFINS OF PAA JOE AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS" (THE SCHOOL, KINDERHOOK, NY, AND JACK SHAINMAN GALLERY, NEW YORK) and "IF I HAD POSSESSION OVER JUDGEMENT DAY: COLLECTIONS OF CLAUDE SIMARD" (FRANCES YOUNG TANG TEACHING MUSEUM AT SKIDMORE COLLEGE, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY; CURATED BY IAN BERRY)** Both of these exhibitions drew on collections so diverse that they were hard to pin down to a single sensibility. Maybe that's because this wildly idiosyncratic taste was shared by Jack Shainman and Claude Simard, erstwhile gallery partners whose enthusiasm for the art of Africa, India, and the international avant-garde knew no bounds. Simard, who died in 2014, was celebrated at the Tang with a lively installation that ranged from works by Nick Cave and Malick Sidibé to Tantric drawings and Ghanaian patchwork flags. Shainman's upstate outpost the School overflowed with a similarly eclectic mix of historical and contemporary work, including seventeenth-century Spanish religious paintings, a Tibetan Buddha, and a spectacular El Anatsui assemblage.



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