



THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

GALLERIES - UPTOWN

October 4, 2010 Issue

KANISHKA RAJA

Raja's debut at the gallery opens with a mural: bright and dark-green stripes underlie a yellow diagram of what might be a basketball court. This juxtaposition between formalist pattern and architectural precision recurs throughout the show of multi-panel paintings of cityscapes that might have sprung from the mind of Italo Calvino. "KR 20," a quasi-psychedelic sixteen-part grid, portrays banks of computer monitors in a vast hall that recedes, via single-point perspective, into a wall of glowing windows. The absence of people adds a distinct chill, but the work is about more than techno dystopia—evidence of the artist's hand imbues the pictures with a humanity that defuses their portentous content. Through Oct. 23.