

July 17, 2006

## A Rabbit As King of the Ghosts

(4) Mitchell-Innes & Nash, 534 W. 26th St.; through August 11

The supernatural has become fashionable among curators, from last fall's spirit photography at the Met to Creative Time's current "Strange Powers." Justine Kurland and Dan Torop give us their take in this broad show, which meanders from a nineteenth-century Shriners group portrait to documents of Joan Jonas performances from the seventies to meditative landscapes by today's photographers. The theme will be familiar to fans of Kurland's own photographs of teen girls enacting pagan rituals in wooded settings; one nineteenth-century image of several long-haired women could be from her inspiration board. Other surprises, such as astronomer W. F. Swann's gorgeous picture of a nebula and the smoky images of radiation by a Madame Curie collaborator, demonstrate that there's plenty of myth and mystery still to be found in the archives.

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