

THE NEW YORKER

GALLERIES-CHELSEA

KAREN AZOULAY / ROBERT SEYDEL

Burrowing into the pop-detritus archive somewhere between Ray Johnson's mail art and Tom Phillips's "Humument" project, Seydel's serial collage "The Book of Saul" describes an allusive fantasy about his aunt and alter ego Ruth Greisman, her brother, Saul, and their escapades with Joseph Cornell and Marcel Duchamp. Another series is more abstract, mixing marks in oil, ink, and pencil, with scraps of papers from Turkey and Greece, but it, too, unfolds in novelistic rhythms; one can see Seydel's appeal to the guest curator and poet Peter Gizzi. In the adjacent gallery, the Toronto native Azoulay (chosen by the guest curator Glenn Ligon) imagines pageants of rivers and fireworks as handmade Las Vegas-esque sets. Through April 21. (Cue, 511 W. 25th St. 212-206-3583

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