

Scott, Andrea. "Beverly Semmes", THE NEW YORKER, 9 October 2017.



THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN: ART

## BEVERLY SEMMES

In her transporting installation "Bow," the mid-career New York-based artist lines the gallery with flowing dresses of sky-blue tulle. Pinned high on the walls, they fold from the waist, draping their absurdly long sleeves to the floor, as if in a graceful act of supplication. Seen side by side, they form a gauzy curtain, setting the stage for three curious objects in the center of the room: makeshift ceramic vessels, which stand just over four feet tall. The unglazed sculptures are appealingly Seussian conglomerations of other handmade containers. Both series play on the gendered associations of her domestic materials. Semmes also takes on thorny issues of representation in an ongoing project with the tongue-in-cheek title "The Feminist Responsibility Project," images of women from porn magazines, which she abstracts into inky shapes.

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SUSAN INGLETT  
522 W. 24th St., New York, N.Y.  
212-647-9111