



## THE NEW YORKER

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# GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

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## GALLERIES—CHELSEA

### **PHYLLIS GALEMBO**

Galembo's photographs of fantastically costumed revellers in Nigeria, Benin, and Haiti might have their roots in ethnographic studies, but there's nothing academic about their presentation—or their impact. Some of her big, glossy color prints (the largest are five-foot squares) are great fashion shots, detailing outrageous mash-ups of feathers, flounces, woven fronds, and rose-colored bristles that make Comme des Garçons look tame. But the work from Haiti is dark and hellish, a black-comic vision of masked, bare-chested figures slathered with oily tar and brandishing fake weapons. Here, masquerade appears to be less celebration than exorcism, and the demons rule. Through Oct. 25. (Kasher, 521 W. 23rd St. 212-966-3978.)