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Schjeldahl, Peter. "Bruce Nauman." *The New Yorker*, 25 November 2013, p. 26.

ART



GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

Bruce Nauman

The artist's beautiful new videos and drawings are simple in idea, thrifty in form, and profound in effect. In short, they're Naumanesque. Most show the artist's hands producing the parallax illusion you get when pointing two fingers at each other and letting optical focus slip, conjuring a floating sausagelike shape. A set of four videos exhausts the permutations of raised digits as Nauman intones them in voice-over: "third finger," "thumb," and so on. (You're inside his head, seeing with his eyes, thinking his thoughts.) Two wall-filling projections literalize the trick with a pencil stub, sharpened at both ends and held shakily aloft by two more pencils. The stub falls, is retrieved. A cat meows, then strolls past. Time slows, steadies, and expands, becoming absolute consciousness. Through Dec. 21. (Sperone Westwater, 257 Bowery, at Stanton St. 212-999-7337.)