

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

GALLERIES-DOWNTOWN

MALACHI FARRELL

Farrell's installation, which inaugurates this Lower East Side space, is a wacky, exuberant celebration of the skyscraper as modern icon, postmodern scourge, and, finally, terrorist target. Nestled in a pit of crumpled brown paper bags and scattered boxes is a sextet of miniature cardboard towers with cardboard arms attached to their sides. The arms are controlled by motion detectors and computer software, so they move like a drill team to soundtracks ranging from an aerobics class to vintage Public Enemy rap to code-red terror alerts. "Nothing Stops a New Yorker" is cheerfully demented, but, for those who witnessed 9/11 at closer range than Farrell (a recent transplant from Paris), it's perhaps a bit glib. Through Dec. 22. (Thrust, 114 Bowery. 212-431-4802.)

"Malachi Farrell", Galleries downtown, *The New Yorker*, Dec 19, 2005.