

NEW YORK

ART

JERRY SALTZ

Alix Pearlstein

"Pearlstein coaxes you into a handsome visual realm, flirts with you, and then leaves you on your own."

Critics' Pick

[The Kitchen](#)

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Profile

For the last couple of decades, the seriously wily Alix Pearlstein has been making stark videos that combine group therapy, Pavlovian science, theater, slapstick comedy, and angsty existential pathos. For this large-scale outing Pearlstein is in fine form in several works. In the large gallery is the four-channel *After the Fall*, a combination orgy, hell, and soap opera featuring a number of lost souls, horny chicks, randy guys, and angry young men walking around one another, coming together, fighting, talking, and staring. It's anyone's guess what it's all about, but it does have a look. In the back room we see similar characters doing similar things with similar results. Pearlstein coaxes you into a handsome visual realm, flirts with you, and then leaves you on your own. — Jerry Saltz