

# VENUS

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## MANHATTAN

Becque, Elien Blue. "The Culture List: Surf Paintings, Gauguin on Vacation, and Victorian Sex Appeal."  
*Vanity Fair*, April 4, 2014.

# VANITY FAIR

## The Culture List: Surf Paintings, Gauguin on Vacation, and Victorian Sex Appeal



*We've curated the must-see exhibits and events from around the globe, including: surf paintings by Raymond Pettibon, Gauguin's Tahitian vacation souvenirs, and Jackson Pollock's famous Mural.*

*“Are Your Motives Pure? Raymond Pettibon Surfers 1985–2013”*

*Venus Over Manhattan, New York*

*April 3–May 17, 2014*

The big-wave dramas played out in Raymond Pettibon’s surfer paintings must be seen in person, and you’re in luck, because there’s a dynamo collection going on view at Venus Over Manhattan. Pettibon’s other works are almost all black-and-white, with splashes of handwritten text, as though they were actually pages ripped from some punk-rock comic book. The surf paintings, on the other hand, are huge and colorful—and they’ve never been shown together. Some, such as in the massive *No Title (This Left Was)*, are darkly suggestive and tend toward abstraction—the goliath, blue waves swallow up the surfers dancing inside them. Others feature hunky, tow-headed dudes and breezy imagery, lined with bits of poetry, keeping the mood at *Endless Summer* level. Try to catch the opening—April 3, at six P.M.—for the sexiest bunch of art-world personas this side of Montauk.