

# VENUS

MANHATTAN LOS ANGELES

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### VENUS OVER LOS ANGELES CREATES AN EXPERIMENTAL NEW SPACE FOR THE ARTS IN L.A.

"When I found this place, it was so hideous—every single thing was covered up, every skylight, every window was broken," gallerist Adam Lindemann says of his newest venture, Venus Over Los Angeles. Yet after a six-month search for a suitable space for the West Coast outpost of his New York gallery, it turned out to be exactly what he was looking for.



After a thorough cleaning and a fresh coat of paint, the 14,000-square-foot pair of connected former warehouses, with their windows restored and ceiling trusses left intact, inaugurated their new life as an airy, light-filled gallery last weekend with "Viscera" (through June 27), an exhibit of three new bodies of work by artist Dan Colen.

The gallery bills itself less as an extension of its East Coast counterpart, Venus Over Manhattan—known best for staging exhibitions of high-profile, historic pieces—than a new space for experimentation. Seeking to take advantage of the ample square footage downtown L.A. has to offer, Lindemann plans to highlight emerging artists (sculptor Elaine Cameron-Weir and painter Dan McCarthy among them), who will have the opportunity to work on a larger scale that he says simply "isn't possible" in New York.

"It's kind of free and wild and a little weird," Lindemann says of the formerly industrial neighborhood the gallery occupies. He's the new kid on the block in L.A.'s burgeoning downtown arts scene, already home to MOCA, artist Laura Owens's 356 S. Mission gallery, and the soon-to-open Broad Museum, with West Coast editions of New York's Maccarone Gallery and Hauser & Wirth on the way.

"It feels a little edgy, and I felt that artists would respond to that," adds Lindemann. But the best part of having a space outside of New York? "Elbow room."