DAVID NOLAN NEW YORK

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Dieter Roth Schlecht Erkennbares Blumen Still-Leben 1977/79 paint, graphite and cardboard on wood 22 x 17 inches

MESSY VITALITY

The group show "Slough," seemingly inspired by the texture of a loofah, features dozens of artists who skate among sincerity, irony, conceptualism, and earnest abstraction. You'll see photos of Vito Acconci masturbating under a gallery floor, Cheryl Donegan's silver painting scraped with a box cutter, Dieter Roth's still lifes (pictured), and Keith Edmier's cycad growing in the gallery window. Holding the hodgepodge together is a wily concern with the way that material accumulates at the edges of preformed activities and the varieties of human touch. A fine mess (at David Nolan, through June 27). – *Jerry Saltz*