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By Mark Segal

#### **On Representation**

The new exhibition at the Karma Gallery in Amagansett, which will run through Sept. 10, engages perception and representation through the work of Duane Hanson, who was known for his hyper-realistic sculptures of ordinary people, and Dike Blair, who came to New York City in the late 1970s, when Hanson's work was peripheral to the art world's critical discourse.

Mr. Blair's new oil paintings capture the banal and transitory details of everyday life with deadpan perception. In 1994, he took issue with a review of Mr. Hanson's work by Michael Kimmelman of The New York Times in a text that concluded, "There is magic happening at the edge of representation, and this suggests to me that Hanson's work was not, and is not, the 'dead end' that Mr. Kimmelman concludes [it is]."