

Lesser, Casey. "5 Rockaways Art Destinations to Hit This Summer," *Artsy*, 29 June 2016.



5 Rockaways Art Destinations to Hit This Summer

ARTSY EDITORIAL
BY CASEY LESSER

JUN 29TH, 2016 8:41 PM

Topless

91-02 ROCKAWAY BEACH BOULEVARD

SATURDAY–SUNDAY, 12–7 P.M. AND BY APPOINTMENT



Artists Brent Birnbaum and Jenni Crain began Topless in 2014 as an initiative to revive Rockaway storefronts that were left vacant after Sandy. The storefronts are transformed into art spaces, held in a new location each year, and host four exhibitions over the course of the summer months. Topless maintains the history of their buildings (they've taken over former sites of an eye doctor's office, a two-story bungalow, a tattoo parlor), while presenting fresh exhibitions of contemporary artists they admire. In addition to their exhibition schedule (listed below), this summer the gallery will present Topless Projects, a series of presentations in the backroom of their current location, which will include works by Eric Wiley and a show organized by Toronto gallery Roberta Pelan, among others.

Beverly Semmes, *Scratch* (2016). Images courtesy of Topless gallery