



**NEW YORK**  
**JOE BRADLEY & CHRIS**  
**MARTIN**

Mitchell-Innes & Nash

For a duo of New York painters known to discuss and even trade their work with each other, Joe Bradley and Chris Martin appear to have little in common as artists. While Martin is willing to walk the plank in hopes of finding something personal and exciting, Bradley is content to tinker at the periphery. The centerpiece of their two-person exhibition at Mitchell-Innes & Nash is the mammoth *Ain't It Funky*, leaning against a column in the middle of the gallery, in which Martin has painted a constellation totem between James Brown and Miles Davis records. Things seem to get sucked into Martin's canvases—one bearing the inscription "Six pillows rose up to greet the dawn—good morning! Good morning!" is populated by a half dozen paint-soaked cushions. His work embodies a scrappy, freewheeling sophistication unmatched by any painter exhibiting in New York at present.

Joe Bradley, who is more than 20 years younger than Martin, is represented in the show largely by bare canvases often joined together or hung in painted frames. His style has always been pared down, and a case can be made that his nihilism within the walls of this exhibition is meant to counterbalance Martin's all-over frenzy. But even in Minimalist terms, how could Bradley's nonpaintings hold us the way that Martin's pieces do? What their pairing here demonstrates is the difference between Martin's forthrightness and the timidity resulting from trying to break rules that were broken long ago. —Alexander Wolf

**CURRENT SHOW (CHRIS MARTIN)**  
Los Angeles: Daniel Weinberg Gallery  
**THROUGH JUNE 12**  
[DANIELWEINBERGGALLERY.COM](http://DANIELWEINBERGGALLERY.COM)

**UPCOMING SHOWS (CHRIS MARTIN)**  
Berlin: Koch Oberhuber Wolff  
**SEPT. 10--OCT. 30**  
[KOW-BERLIN.INFO](http://KOW-BERLIN.INFO)

Washington, D.C.: Corcoran Gallery of Art  
**JAN.--APR. 2011**  
[CORCORAN.ORG](http://CORCORAN.ORG)