

GLADSTONE

Sean Tatol, "Robert Rauschenberg - Sympathy for Abandoned Objects - Gladstone,"
Manhattan Art Review, May 9, 2025

The Manhattan Art Review

Robert Rauschenberg - Sympathy for Abandoned Objects - Gladstone - ****

Taken in as a whole, as happens when you first walk in, the "trash + aesthetic" approach comes dangerously close to approaching the outsider-tinkerer Americana trope, like a guy with six half-fixed cars on blocks in their front yard. Then you start looking at everything individually and the ingenuity and pure visual pleasure of each work proves itself with undeniable charm and confidence. I was going to complain about the one that's just a flashlight on a pedestal with a candle inside of it; it almost registers as a too-easy joke, but then I noticed the flashlight's brand name is "Early Winters" so I had to concede.