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RICHMOND BURTON

Collectively titled "I Am," Burton's dazzling series of decorative abstractions—he's a direct descendant of the New York School—conjures a pandemonium of associations, from Gustav Klimt to kilims to Lee Krasner. Each painting is constructed like a mosaic (think of the controlled chaos of Antonio Gaudi), with myriad marks coalescing into dense patterns reminiscent of a peacock-feather fan or airy kaleidoscopic grids. This is painting untouched by the age of mechanical reproduction; Burton fast-forwards from Pollock to the present as if Warhol's silk screens were just a pesky rumor. Through June 30. (Cheim & Read, 521 W. 23rd St. 242-7727.)



"I Am (Intertribal)," by Richmond Burton, at Cheim & Read (see Galleries—Chelsea).