

ART

## Alissa McKendrick

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In this American painter's delightful solo début with the gallery, hell-raising female sprites speed through strange, roughed-in landscapes. In one untitled canvas, an expressive character grins lewdly while steering a high-heeled stiletto on wheels past a chic, willowy woman; the two figures occupy a metallic silver fog, the outline of a city visible in the distance. In another picture, a blue car winds along a bubble-gum-pink path through the gloom of a storybook graveyard, its passengers oblivious of a naked motorcyclist bursting through a fence. If, as the show's title, "Resentment," suggests, McKendrick's joyriding demons represent anthropomorphized grudges and grievances, bitterness has never been channelled with such insouciant appeal. Fashion illustration meets Fauvism, with grace notes of Edward Gorey and Ludwig Bemelmans, in McKendrick's fantastic world.

—*Johanna Fateman*