ARTNEWS



Suzanne Dikker and Matthias Oostrik, Measuring the Magic of Mutual Gaze, 2011–12, single-channel video, 2 hours, 40 minutes.

"SLEUTHING THE MIND"

PRATT MANHATTAN GALLERY SEPTEMBER 17 - NOVEMBER 5

his wide-ranging show, which was organized by artist Ellen K. Levy, managed the rare feat of being both intellectually and visually rich. Its focus: work that examines and foregrounds the operations of the mind, whether forming opinions, as in Gregory Garvey's ingenious video sculpture The Split Brain (Dichoptic) Interface: Thomas v. Hill (1999/2014), which overlays videos and audio from the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas hearings, forcing viewers to parse the narrative; or pondering the physiological value of art itself, as in Suzanne Dikker and Matthias Oostrik's Measuring the Magic of Mutual Gaze (2011), a video study of the brainwaves of participants in Marina Abramović's Artist Is Present (2010) performance, that revealed Abramović's mind to be unusually active mid-performance.

* Michael E. Goldberg set every still of Hitchcock's film *Psycho* one atop the other to create a ghostly, fractured domestic interior—a portrait photograph of memory itself, perhaps; while one of Hans Breder's fierce, high-pitched, abstract gradient paintings conjured searing after-images in the eye, overruling what we think the mind should be seeing.

This work underscored the strangeness of the brain, suggesting how little we know about it and its relationship with art. This theme ran through the show, which felt like a catalytic event and an ideal model for future exploration.

ANDREW RUSSETH

* Please note error above. *Illuminated Average #1: Hitchcock's Psycho,* 2000, is by artist Jim Campbell.

