

ZIEHERSMITH
ARTNEWS

Castles for the Afterlife: The Coffins of Paa Joe Make Their Way from Ghana to New York

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Installation view of the “The Coffins of Paa Joe and the Pursuit of Happiness” at the School | Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, New York. - COURTESY JACK SHAINMAN GALLERY, NEW YORK

Excerpt:

[...] And there is fine arrangement in another room of various antique African and Asian wooden masks used for ritual and decoration, a photograph of Nan Goldin shrouded in shadow, titled *Self Portrait at Age 18* (1970), and Paul Anthony Smith's *Giant Steps* (2016), which presents an enlarged photograph of a woman in the midst of a carnival parade, distorted by an etching technique typical of the young New York-based artist.

The expansive display [...] evinces a deep love for collecting art, and it embodies, in Shainman's words, “man's quest for wanting to better ourselves for achievements, for spirituality, for questions, answers, and a kind of greatness.”