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ART & DESIGN

# Ann Lislegaard Presents Three Intriguing Pieces

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Art in Review

By **KEN JOHNSON**

The Norwegian artist Ann Lislegaard's exceptionally elegant show presents three intriguing pieces based on famous works of science fiction.

"The Flower From Weena" is a white, geometric flower made by a 3-D printer in white nylon. It represents a key element in H. G. Wells's 1895 novel "The Time Machine." When the main character returns from the future, he's able to prove where he had been by producing from his pocket two flowers unknown to his time that were given him by Weena, a female from A.D. 802701.

"Oracles, Owls ... Some Animals Never Sleep" is a video of a digitally animated owl projected twice on adjoined screens. It is inspired by Philip K. Dick's novel "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" and by "Blade Runner," the movie version of that book, in which an extraordinarily lifelike artificial owl makes a brief appearance. The owls spit out phrases recorded from "Blade Runner" as well as unintelligible fragments said to be from the I-Ching and other sources.

The third piece is a five-minute digital animation projected as a video loop called "Dobaded," a word encountered in Kawamata Chiaki's novel

“Death Sentences.” It’s in a poem in the book that effectively kills its readers. Puzzling and mysterious, Ms. Lislegaard’s film explores a strange, multiroom interior as if you were seeing it through the eyes of a detective at the scene of a crime.

These three works have in common a primary existence as digital data. They hint at a “Matrix”-like future in which all things — including artworks — are but shadows of pure information.

## **ANN LISLEGAARD**

### **‘Oracles, Owls ... Some Animals Never Sleep’**

*Murray Guy*

*453 West 17th Street, Chelsea*

*Through Dec. 20*

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