

ARTFORUM

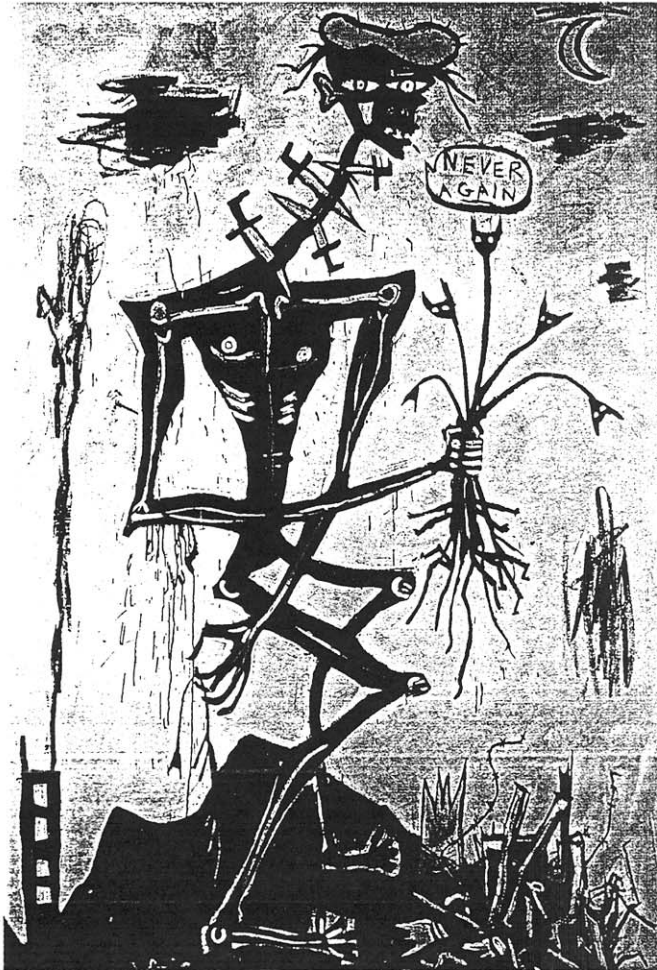
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I N T E R N A T I O N A L

The Wild East: The Rise and Fall of the East Village

1983

The "UNDERDOG" show at East 7th Street Gallery, curated by painter Rick Prol, prompts critics to consider an "East Village sensibility."



Rick Prol, *Never Again*, 1984,
acrylic on canvas, 108 x 78".

Rick Prol, whose paintings were exemplary of neo-expressionism East Village-style, asserted, "I feel like that role and what happened serves me better now because there is such a distance from it. It's safely in the past and people can now romanticize about it. Great. I hope they make my career over again—not that I'm not doing well." Clearly Prol was working all the angles. This game of awareness was noted by Dan Cameron in the February 1986 issue of *Arts Magazine*, where he observed that Prol "thinks we know that he doesn't know what he's doing, but he knows that we know that he knows."



It takes a village: East Village Orchestra, Palladium

OCTOBER 1984

the East Village Orchestra, an extravagant ensemble of sixty-odd instruments, twenty singers, eight dancers, and a handful of "live" painters.