NEW YORKER

GALLERIES—UPTOWN

WILLIAM ANASTASI

It's no accident that the drawings here look improvisational: the septuagenarian New Yorker has been collaborating with chance in his art work for years. Some of the works were made listening to music while blindfolded, others while riding the subway wearing noise-cancelling headphones. Links to Surrealist automatism are obvious, but, as the artist's close friend (and frequent chess partner) John Cage once pointed out, Anastasi's engagement with the technique is "not psychological, it's physical." Too often pigeonholed as a Conceptualist, in these haptic delights Anastasi strikes a balance between feeling and thought. Through June 4. (Gering + Lopez, 730 Fifth Ave., at 57th St. 646-336-7183.)

Scott, Andrea. "William Anastasi." The New Yorker, May 17, 2010.