

**OCTOBER 31, 2005** 

## EMILIE CLARK

Clark's gorgeous paintings and watercolors emerge from a conceptual dialogue with the naturalist Mary Treat (1830-1923), a correspondent of Darwin's who—from her home in Vineland, New Jersey—pioneered the study of carnivorous plants. Clark's show is titled "Home Studies in Nature," after Treat's book, and the forms of the paintings are anchored in exact observation; Clark raised terrariumsful of her subjects and lived with them in her studio before transferring them, along with the paintings, into the gallery. Categorized as "portraits" and "history paintings" as well as still-lifes, the work examines codes and systems of knowledge and representation without stinting on visually seductive color and form. Through Nov. 12. (Steinberg, 526 W. 26th St. 212-924-5770.)