

## About Town

## Art

The works of **Simone Fattal** seem to have emerged from the alluvial matter of primordial life. Or perhaps they are still emerging: their inchoate, sketchy bodies suggest the mystery of something struggling toward a final manifestation. In a joint presentation of the artist's work, at Greene Naftali (through Feb. 28) and Kaufmann Repetto (through Feb. 21), Fattal's clay and bronze sculptures, drawings, and collages reach for mythologies, metaphysics, and motifs that spring from Sumerian culture and from Sufi mystic traditions: among the works, we find allusions to the Epic of Gilgamesh and to figures from classical Arabic poetry. But a prelinguistic intuition also simmers, for example, in a set of illegible, calligraphic drawings that suggest something just preceding the nascence of writing. The forms in the galleries rise from prehistory, yet are still being born.—*Zoë Hopkins*



"The House with the Keyhole," from 2018. Art work by Simone Fattal / Courtesy the artist / Greene Naftali / Kaufmann Repetto; Photograph by Júlia Standová