SEANKELLY

"Idris Khan," The New Yorker, October 29, 2007.



GALLERIES-CHELSEA

IDRIS KHAN

Khan, a British photographer making his New York solo début, is known for appropriating not just one famous image but an entire body of work. His "Homage to Bernd Becher," shown here, superimposes all of Becher's pictures of water towers until they become one atomized apparition. The other works in this show (including a meditative three-panel film) involve a similar accumulation, but Khan's main subjects are texts and music scores rather than images. Enormous photographs of every page of the Koran and "Thus Spake Zarathustra" are nervous abstractions that, like Glenn Ligon's densest text pieces, tip into obliteration and get lost in the voluptuous void of the gutter. Through Oct. 29. (Lambert, 550 W. 21st St. 212-242-3611.)