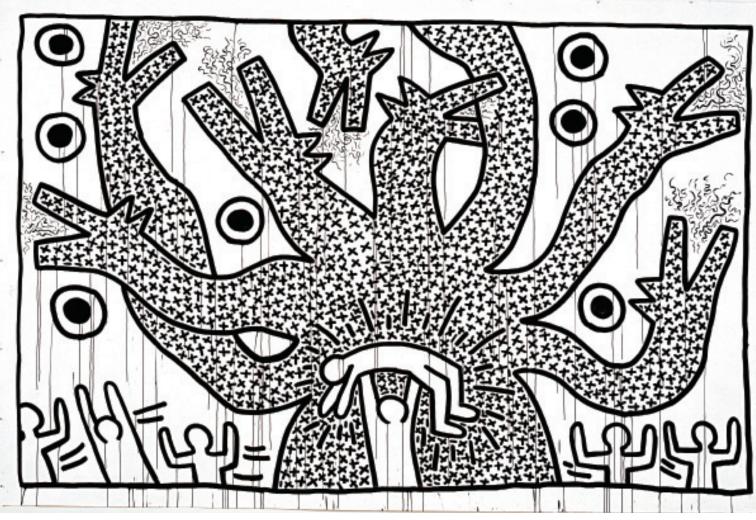
Image: Normal about town focus clique finest



Untitled, 1978. Various pencils and inksongraph paper and unlined paper.

RADIANT HARING

Keith Haring, the pop artist, activist, and cultural icon whose early works emerged from the depths of the New York City subway, is coming to The Brooklyn Museum March 16, with a members-only reception the previous day. The exhibit, Keith Haring: 1978-1982, features over 150 works on paper, rarely seen sketchbooks, subway drawings, exhibition flyers, journals, posters, documentary >>>

NEW YORK ABOUT TOWN



A still of Haring painting himself into a corner.

<<< photographs, and experimental videos. The Haring exhibit is set during the time of the burgeoning New York downtown scene, when Haring was a fresh-faced 19-year-old from Pennsylvania. Jean-Michel Basquiat was there. Kenny Scharf was there. Madonna was there. The graffiti artist, Futura 2000, who influenced Haring's work along with other New York City street artists, was there. Haring's most enduring pieces include the Crack Is Wack mural on the side of a handball court in Harlem, Radiant Baby, Andy Mouse, and loads of imagery provided to AIDS organizations as a response to the American government's refusal to acknowledge the epidemic devastating the gay community. Before his untimely death in 1990, Haring graced the cover of Vanity Fair, painted the bodies of Grace Jones and Bill T. Jones in his signature bold white lines, and presented his gal pal Madonna with an original piece in collaboration with Andy Warhol, as a wedding gift in 1985. This, the first large-scale exhibition to explore Haring's early career, is curated by Raphaela Platow, and runs through July8. brooklynmuseum.</p>





LOLA GETS

Hotel Lola has styled itself with a modern appeal that compliments its fashion and design district location. Each room of the revamped 1903 building is accessorized with trendy duvets, 300-count bedding, a work desk and a 37" HD flat-screen TV. Designer Susan Jaques converted this former women's residence into a spectacular showplace with a palate of bold amethyst and smoky charcoals, evocative of a "modern day femme fatale." The lobby boasts one-of-a-kind velvet mohair chairs and dramatic chandeliers selected by renown photographer and director Matthew Rolston, who also mounted sweeping photographic murals highlighting iconic fashion imagery there. Other amenities include a fitness center, a business area with individual workstations and Lola's "living room" where guests can $unwind\,with\,signature\,night caps amongst$ all that sexy. hotellolanyc.com -VICTORIA L. JOHNSON