

Michelle Elzay, *The New Yorker*, September 20, 2004



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PHOTOGRAPHY

MICHELLE ELZAY

Fifty-one color portraits of Benedictine nuns from the Abbaye Saint Marie de Maumont, in Bordeaux, are tucked into a glassed-in gallery off a busy corridor at Fordham's campus at Lincoln Center. The fourteen-by-fourteen-inch prints are closely hung in two rows, which emphasizes the monotony of the nuns' identical gray head scarves, white collars, and black dresses. But Sister Marie-Madeleine wears a huge smile, Sister Marie-Pierre seems awfully suspicious, and the ancient, smiling Sister Scholastique has a supermodel's cheekbones. Elzay's straightforward technique recalls August Sander and the Bechers. Through Sept. 30. (Center Gallery, Fordham University at Lincoln Center, 113 W. 60th St. 212-636-6303.)