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Goings On About Town: Dara Friedman

The experimental filmmaker has a gift for capturing movement, while establishing herself as a vivid physical presence outside the frame, as seen in her stunning video installation "Mother Drum," which features footage of drummers, dancers, and flashlights in the night, shot on Swinomish, Coeur d'Alene, and Crow reservations in Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The German-born artist, who is based in Miami, was moved to make the piece when she learned that real estate was being developed on what was once an ancient village of Florida's Tequesta tribe. "Mother Drum" transcends documentary; the performances were choreographed for the camera, and the elegant use of color-blocks and other impressionistic effects lend the immersive projection about imperiled land a hypnotic artifice that becomes hyperreal.