Anish Kapoor

Barbara Gladstone Gallery
99 Greene Street
Through April 29

In his new sculptures, Anish Kapoor has gone further than he has before in exploring sculptural illusionism. In three of the four works, the primary material is stone. Each limestone, sandstone or slate monolith has a hole, window or slit through which we seem to be staring into a secret chamber coated with the powdered pigment for which this 35-year-old Indian-born artist, living in London since 1971, may be best known.

The powder dematerializes the mass, confusing interior and exterior, hard and soft, male and female. The surface of the stone seems to be transformed into skin. The chambers seem like black holes without beginning or end. The darkness is mesmerizing. "Adam" is an upright monolith whose interior seems to be a wonderland in which we can easily get lost.

The most dramatic sculpture, "Void No. 2," is not stone but Fiberglas. The powder makes the interior of this hemisphere, roughly seven and a half feet in diameter, seem infinite and weightless - pure, concentrated blue-black space. It is the kind of magical, disconcerting sculpture that undoes vision and logic, pointing toward forces inside and outside us that we barely understand.