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Galerie

8 Must-See Gallery Solo Shows in February

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From alluring abstractions by Hans Hartung at Perrotin to figurative delights by Janet Werner at Anat Ebgi, these are the most interesting shows of the month.

On the lookout for the most interesting gallery solo shows across America every month, Galerie surveys the art scene in search of artists who should be on every collector and connoisseur's must-see list. For February, we have our eye on alluring abstractions by Hans Hartung at Perrotin and Yuan Fang at Half Gallery in New York and figurative delights by Janet Werner at Anat Ebgi and Jim Shaw at Gagosian in Los Angeles. From the streets of Manhattan to the boulevards of Beverly Hills, these shows are not to be missed.



Janet Werner, Valentin, (2022).

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6. Janet Werner at Anat Ebgi, Los Angeles

Celebrated for her psychological portraits of women that are based on found fashion photography and art historical imagery, Canadian painter Janet Werner has been deconstructing and reformulating parts of pictures into new compositions for the past 15 years. Starting out by shrinking and enlarging the heads of models or by altering their faces in somewhat surreal ways, the 1987 Yale MFA grad took her subversive style of portraiture to the next level by splitting her figures like the characters in an exquisite corpse drawing or by placing images of women within images—resulting in a sensational series of both shapeshifting and haunting pictures.

For “Call Me When You Start Wearing Red,” her second solo show with the gallery, Werner continues her compelling concept of “broken pictures,” while adding an aspect of performance with levitating bodies, upside-down figures and costumed clowns. The artist’s love of fashion is obvious in her depiction of her stylish subjects’ outfits, accessories and shoes, as well as their sophisticated grooming. Creating composite characters that speak to the complexity of women’s roles today, Werner successfully subverts the narrative by smartly revealing the psychological challenges of acting the parts that the media ultimately wants women to play.

Through February 25