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7 Art Exhibitions To See This Spring



Nadja Sayej Contributor ⓘ ⊕

Arts

I write about the crossover between high art and pop culture.

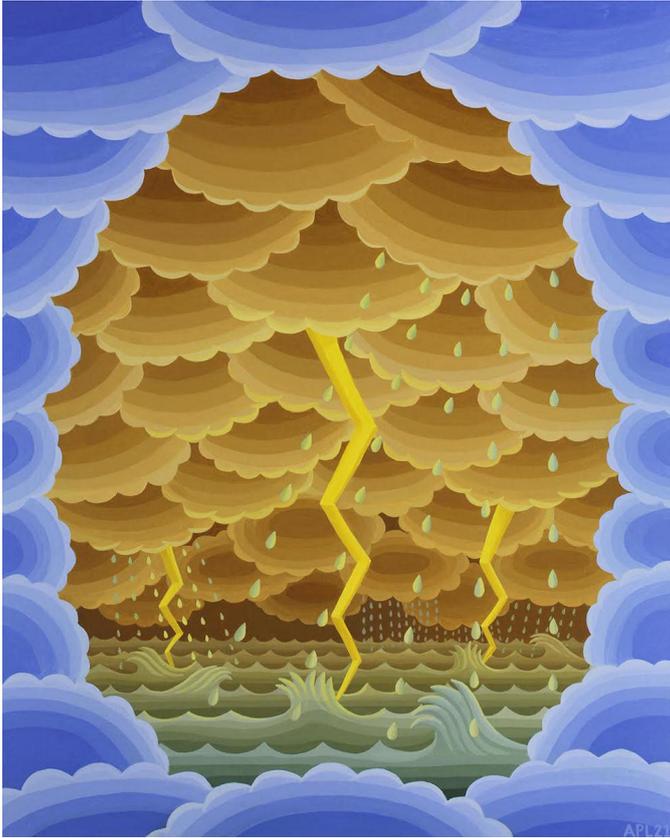


Sun Ra, 1972 PHOTO BY ALTON ABRAHAM

Raise your hand if you miss going to art galleries. You're not alone. Many of us miss going to see art exhibitions, whether its local art galleries or big museums. While many museums and galleries remain closed, some exhibitions are still slated to open (mostly by appointment), while others are online exhibits. From the French Riviera to New York and Chicago, here are 10 art exhibitions to see across the world this spring.

Sun Ra, The Substitute Words: Poetry, 1957-72

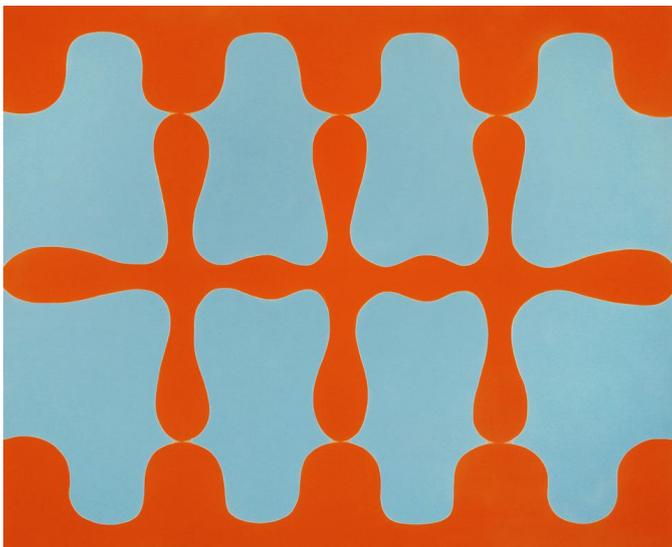
Sun Ra leader, Marshall Allen, who is now 96, recently had half his house collapse, and donations have helped repair it. Help support toe Sun Ra Arkestra by buying their new 7" single (based on unreleased recordings from their 1961 session for the album "The Futuristic Sounds of Sun Ra"). It's part of a new book and exhibition in Chicago that honors the Afrofuturist musical group. The exhibition is on at the Corbett vs. Dempsey art gallery in Chicago, which is called "Sun Ra, The Substitute Words: Poetry, 1957-72," and opens March 26.



Amy Lincoln, *Lighting Seascape, Blue and Gold*, 2021, Acrylic on panel, 50.8 x 40.6 cm. / 20 x 16 in.
TAYMOUR GRAHNE PROJECTS

Seascapes

Taymour Grahne Projects is showing a series of stunning artworks by New York-based artist Amy Lincoln, for an online exhibition entitled *Seascapes*. It's what the gallery calls "intensely hued paintings of the natural world." They also look a bit like emojis, heavy on the design, somewhat graphic. Lincoln credits paintings by Henri Rousseau and Ivan Rabuzin as her inspiration. "The clouds and moon in the paintings are often modeled and sculptural, but other things like stars are flat and painted like a symbol," says Lincoln. "I paint the waves of the ocean in distinct rows, as you might see in a stage set."



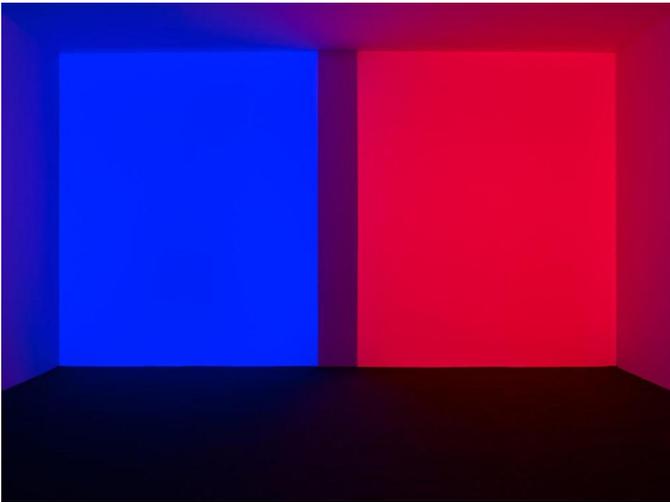
Paul Feeley WADDINGTON CUSTOT

Space Stands Still

This spring, Waddington Custot in London is opening an exhibition of abstract works by American artist Paul Feeley (the first Feeley exhibit in the UK for over 50 years). Over 20 of Feeley's minimalist, modular paintings and wooden sculptures will be on view, created from the 1950s up until his death in 1966. He may not have been a household name, but Feeley was close with the art critic Clement Greenberg and befriended many abstract artists, including Helen Frankenthaler (who he taught at Bennington College during the 1940s) and Donald Judd.

Soutine / de Kooning: Conversations in Paint

On view at the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia, *Soutine / de Kooning: Conversations in Paint* is a two-man exhibition. Curated by Simonetta Fraquelli, this exhibition features over 45 paintings by two 20th century artists: French painter Chaïm Soutine and American artist Willem de Kooning. It aims to show the synergy between both the artists, who worked during the 1940s. On view until August 8, after showing at the Barnes, it will travel to le Musée de l'Orangerie, Paris



James Turrell BARRETT BARRERA PROJECTS

Orca (Blue-Red)

Light artist James Turrell is having an exhibition in St. Louis at projects+exhibitions, where he's showing his Projection Pieces from the late 1960s. This includes his piece, called "Orca (Blue and Red)" from 1969, which calls to mind a pair of retro 3D glasses. The exhibition is free, open to the public and accessible by appointment only (visitors must wear masks inside the gallery).

Paris to Hollywood The Fashion and Influence of Véronique and Gregory Peck

Véronique Peck was an early fashion influencer. She was a Paris-based writer and philanthropist who helped raise millions for the American Cancer Society. On view until July 18, this exhibition features 100 outfits designed by 15 different fashion designers, all owned by Peck, from the 1950s to the 1990s. With her husband Gregory, this dynamic duo was one of Hollywood's most popular couples. As their daughter Cecilia Peck remembers: "When my parents entered a room, you couldn't take your eyes off them. They made style look effortless. I think their secret was that they were having fun. They were in love, and you could feel it. They inspired each other and made each other laugh. His eyes were always on her. Their style was a reflection of their love."

The Imaginary Sea

Opening April 17 at Villa Carmignac, which is on Porquerolles Island in the south of France, this exhibit puts the spotlight onto the underwater world, by featuring several artworks themed around water. It features artworks from their collection, including works by Jeff Koons (a lobster), Bruce Nauman (a fountain with bronze fish) and Miquel Barceló (aquatic fresco). It runs all summer until the fall, and is created in partnership with the local Port-Cros National Park. Curated by Chris Sharp, it's meant to "celebrate the sea as a precious and evocative resource, swarming with known and unknown lives, open to wondrous, strange and unexpected things, and whose immensity has always fed our imagination."



Nadja Sayej

Nadja Sayej is an arts and culture journalist based in Paris, France. Originally from Toronto, she has lived in New York and Berlin, writing for The Guardian, The Economist and The New York Times. She has interviewed over 200 celebrities, from David Lynch to Salma Hayek, Susan Sarandon and Patton Oswalt, and is the author of five books including The Celebrity Interview Book, and Biennale Bitch, a comedy book about the art world. Nadja is also a photographer who shoots celebrities for Vanity Fair London, V Magazine and Interview Magazine Germany. [ne](#)