

The Don't-Misses at Independent and NADA

By WILL HEINRICH MARCH 8, 2018

New Art Dealers Alliance

There's plenty worth seeing in the chaotic, single-floor maelstrom that is the nearby New Art Dealers Alliance fair, or NADA, at Skylight Clarkson Square on Washington Street. Reyes Projects is not to be missed, with a solo presentation of the Detroit artist James Benjamin Franklin, who builds flat, shaped forms out of plaster cloth. Some of them, covered in loud patterns of bright color and epoxy and with other flat objects glued on, look like Papuan spirit boards from the future (Booth 2.03).

Among the other winners: Alex Bradley Cohen's charming figurative paintings at Nicelle Beauchene (1.00), Marley Freeman's luminous small abstractions at Parker (2.02), Farah Al Qasimi's complex and beguiling photographs of life in the United Arab Emirates at Helena Anrather (4.02), Jenna Westra's cerebrally suggestive black and white photographs at Hassla (4.16), and Graham Anderson's sepia-toned retro-futurist figurative painting at Klaus von Nichtssagend (2.05).

Several pixelated landscape drawings that the young German artist Arno Beck made with an Olivetti typewriter are strikingly handsome at Golestani gallery (4.10). Sebastian Utzni's thought-provoking installation "M-Maybe," showing with the Zurich gallery Counter Space (1.28), comprises pre-Sept. 11 comic books the artist collected that feature the destruction of the World Trade Center. Like Mr. Beck's drawings, this piece will stay with you: The last comic is an issue of Superman that was printed in August 2001 but couldn't be released.

Independent 2018

Through Sunday, Spring Studios, 50 Varick Street, TriBeCa; independenthq.com

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Through Sunday, Skylight Clarkson Square, 550 Washington Street, West SoHo; newartdealers.org