

NIGHT GALLERY

2276 E. 16th Street, Los Angeles, California 90021

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Alina Cohen, "The 10 Best Booths at The Armory Show," *Artsy*, March 5, 2020.



Art

The 10 Best Booths at The Armory Show

• Alina Cohen

Mar 5, 2020



Austin Lee, installation view of "Austin Lee: ❀❀❀❀❀" in Jeffrey Deitch's booth at The Armory Show, New York, 2020. Photo by Genevieve Hanson. Courtesy of the artist and Jeffrey Deitch, New York / Los Angeles.

On Wednesday morning, just after Super Tuesday results were called, the 26th edition of [The Armory Show](#) opened at Piers 90 and 94 on Manhattan's West Side. Panic about coronavirus became the go-to small talk topic of choice, and Purell was poured as fast as

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the champagne. Sales appeared to carry on as usual, as 178 galleries from 31 countries began hawking their wares.

Shortly after the preview began, a few bold souls wandered the halls, shouting to ask if there was a doctor in the house—someone required medical assistance at the back of the fair. Attendees weren't visibly disturbed. In fact, the prospect of hugging or hand-shaking, in the face of what might be a global pandemic, appeared much more unnerving to the well-heeled crowd. In an industry used to making deals with handshakes, how will this newfound shyness affect business? It's too soon to tell. For now, enjoy the best presentations the fair has to offer.

Night Gallery

Focus Section, Booth F7, Pier 90

With works by Cynthia Daignault and David Korty



Installation view of Night Gallery's booth at The Armory Show, New York, 2020. Photo by Matthew Booth. Courtesy of Night Gallery, Los Angeles.

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With 24 portraits in tones of white and Payne's gray—a melancholy gray tinged with blue—Cynthia Daignault commemorates women who have been in the public eye. Her subjects range from Patty Hearst to Anita Hill, from JonBenét Ramsey to Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. They're presented sans hierarchy, though curator Jamillah James (who organized the Focus section) made some canny choices: Hillary Clinton's picture sits atop Monica Lewinsky's; Princess Diana's likeness looks slantwise towards Meghan Markle's. "Everyone here has faced some sort of scrutiny or public downfall," explained Night Gallery's senior director, Brian Faucette. "They're all connected by that larger narrative."

Altogether, Daignault calls the series "Delia's Gone" (2020), after a Johnny Cash song. A real murder back in 1900 inspired that number and its folk ballad antecedents. Cash's tune, told from the perspective of the killer, describes how the narrator ties his lover Delia to a chair and shoots her. Even before the age of mass media, men transformed tales of violated women into crowd-pleasing songs. Cash sings: "First time I shot her / I shot her in the side / Hard to watch her suffer / But with the second shot she died."