The top five New York art shows this week

Check out our suggestions for the best art exhibitions you don't want to miss, including gallery openings and more



Photograph: Courtesy Andrew Edlin Gallery

ImcOut

NEW YORK ~

By Howard Halle| Posted: Monday December 17 2018

With New York's art scene being so prominent yet ever changing, you'll want to be sure to catch significant shows. *Time Out New York* rounds up the top five art exhibitions of the week, from offerings at the best photography and art galleries in NYC to shows at renowned institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim.

Top 5 Monday, Dec 17–Sunday, Dec 23



Photograph: Courtesy The Metropolitan Museum of Art, © 2018 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

"Epic Abstraction: Pollock to Herrera"

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Central Park Until Dec 17 2019

This ongoing survey of monumental abstract paintings and sculptures begins in the late 1940s, when Abstract Expressionists like Jackson Pollock stormed onto the scene, and continues to the present with contributions by contemporary purveyors of the genre like Carmen Herrera.



Photograph: Courtesy 56 Henry

Cynthia Talmadge, "1076 Madison"

56 Henry, Downtown

Dec 23, 2018 - Jan 20, 2019

Contemporary artists have recycled nearly every imaginable art-historical genre, except, perhaps, for Impressionism. That is, until now. Enter Cynthia Talmadge, who combines approaches from Seurat and Monet, using painstaking pointillist strokes to paint the same spot at different times of day and different seasons of the year, making careful note of the play of light as the hours and months roll by. Her choice of subject matter, however, is somewhat odd: Instead of haystacks or the Rouen Cathedral, she focuses on the Frank E. Campbell funeral parlor, the Upper East Side undertaker that sends off one-percenters to the great beyond. Class, it would appear, is just as important a theme here as color, and to underscore her tongue-in-cheek take on the issue, Talmadge has dressed up this Chinatown space to resemble the sort of Beaux-Arts townhouse where Campbell's future clients reside.



Photograph: Courtesy Charles Moffett Gallery

Art, Contemporary art

Sam Bornstein, "Daydream Workshop"

Charles Moffett Gallery, Soho Until Dec 22, 2018

This young painter having his first NYC solo show presents dreamy figurative paintings rendered in a variety of techniques that include scraping, pouring, screen-printing, stenciling and sanding. The subjects here, sometimes titled by occupations (electrician, telemarketer), are seen caught between labor and leisure, reality and reverie.



Photograph: Courtesy Fortnight Institute

Jane Kaplowitz, "RSVP Jane Rosenblum (1977-2018)"

Fortnight Institute, East Village Until Jan 6, 2019

An art world insider's insider, Kaplowitz has been a longtime fixture of the downtown scene, both as a painter and as the host (along with her husband) of salons that brought together artists and intellectuals of varying stripe. In her first show in 19 years, Kaplowitz presents works spanning 40 years, much of them based on personal ephemera connected to her role in the art world.



Photograph: Courtesy Andrew Edlin Gallery

"April 14, 1561"

Andrew Edlin Gallery, Nolita Until Jan 20, 2019

UFOs and alien abductions have long fascinated a certain subset of artists, both selftaught and academy trained. The four artists—lonel Talpazan, Karla Knight, Esther Pearl Watson and Paulina Peavy—in this show (titled after an early recorded date of a UFO sighting) represent a mix of these backgrounds, but all of them have been inspired by extraterrestrial phenomena, either by claiming direct contact with ET or by growing up with family members who were obsessed with the subject. Whatever the reason, their works are definitely out of this world.