ARTnews

8 Standouts at MoMA PS1's Greater New York: Passionate Protests, Otherworldly Beings, and More

BY ALEX GREENBERGER | October 6, 2021

Delayed a year by the pandemic, Greater New York—MoMA PS1's quinquennial focused on artists based in the metropolitan area—is back. Curated by Ruba Katrib, who organized the exhibition with Serubiri Moses in collaboration with Kate Fowle and Inés Katzenstein, the show opens to the public on Thursday and runs into April of next year.

In the more than 100 works by 47 artists included, several loose focuses emerge: interests in land rights, passionate desires to represent the under-represented, and shared fascination with artists of the past who have been cast to the margins of history. There are many dead and under-known artists included among a good deal of young up-and-comers, too. Spanning generations, continents, and movements, the artists in this show demonstrate a canny ability to depict the worlds they inhabit with specificity and dynamism.

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Paulina Peavy

Installation view of three works by Paulina Peavy. Photo : Photo Alex Greenberger/ARTnews

Fans of Hilma af Klint will find much to admire in the work of Paulina Peavy, who encountered a UFO during a séance in California in 1932 and was changed forever. In Peavy's mesmerizing paintings, eyes shoot out semi-translucent prisms of deep red and mysterious individuals are cloaked beneath levitating objects. One untitled work made by putting a piece of paper before smoke seems to resemble the traces of an unidentifiable being.