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8 Must-See Solo Gallery Shows in August

From a colorful show of Kaylie Kaitschuck's fabulous fiber art paintings at Plato Gallery in New York to a wildly fantastic exhibition of Kenny Scharf's animated paintings at Honor Fraser in L.A.

BY PAUL LASTER

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ounding up the best gallery exhibitions across the United States each month, *Galerie* journeyed from East to West to discover the top solo shows for August. From a colorful show of Kaylie Kaitschuck's fabulous fiber art paintings created from hundreds of yards of yarn at Plato Gallery in <u>New York (https://galeriemagazine.com/aman-new-york-stormking/)</u> to a wildly fantastic exhibition of Kenny Scharf's animated paintings and public art projects with an immersive tropical forest installation at Honor Fraser in <u>Los Angeles</u> (<u>https://galeriemagazine.com/visionnaire-event-frieze-la/)</u>, these are the not-to-be-missed solo gallery shows this month.



Della Wells, My Truth and Fears are Always with Me, 2023. PHOTO: COURTESY ANDREW EDLIN GALLERY

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Della Wells at Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York

Milwaukee-based, self-taught artist inspired by her mother's tale of growing up in North Carolina between WWI and WWII, Della Wells used those stories to escape her mom's mental illness and father's uncontrollable anger before therapeutically turning the tales into subject matter for her dreamlike collages. Creating collages, paintings, and folk-art dolls for the past 30 years, she has carried on the tradition of Romare Bearden to create visual narratives from recycled magazines, which has its roots in the patch-work wallpaper from homes of the American South in earlier times, and a style of practical decorating still found in parts of Africa and the Caribbean.

The colorful collages in her "Mambo Land" exhibition portray a world in which she envisions "Black women rule." Assembling urban houses surrounded by chickens, flowers, and flags, she depicts stylishly clad Black women and girls in idyllic domestic settings. Playfully collaging facial features, body parts, and outfits for people while filling rooms with furniture, pictures, and plants, Wells lovingly constructs the world of her American dream, where her imaginary citizens happily inhabit lively homes, work in peaceful cities, and vacation in sunny spots.

Through August 9 (https://www.edlingallery.com/exhibitions/della-wells-mambo-land)