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What Not to Miss at the Art Show at the Armory

By MARTHA SCHWENDENER MARCH 3, 2016

The Art Show, organized by the Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) at the Park Avenue Armory, has the fair theme down to a science. Rather than fatigue-inducing roundups of mixed artists, most galleries here are devoting their booths to solo presentations. There is a strong African-American presence this year, many historical shows and a number of concept exhibitions. Alongside these are what might be called the post-retrospective reminder: a gathering of works that follow on the heels of an important museum show. Here are highlights from the 72 exhibitors.

Alexander Gray

Alexander Gray is in the vanguard of representing the estates of older and deceased artists. Here he presents drawings and paintings by Jack Tworkov (1900-1982), of the New York School. Instead of the slashing brush strokes and expressionist canvases of the '50s, Gray is showing a suite of Tworkov's works from the '70s, inspired by the geometric grids and calculated moves of the knight on a chessboard. In the overall context of a fair that moves back and forth across history, with work by deceased artists that looks surprisingly contemporary and work by contemporaries that looks suspiciously historical, the booth is a good example of the topography and approach to "contemporary" art at the moment.