

8 Fascinating New York Gallery Shows to See in April 2022

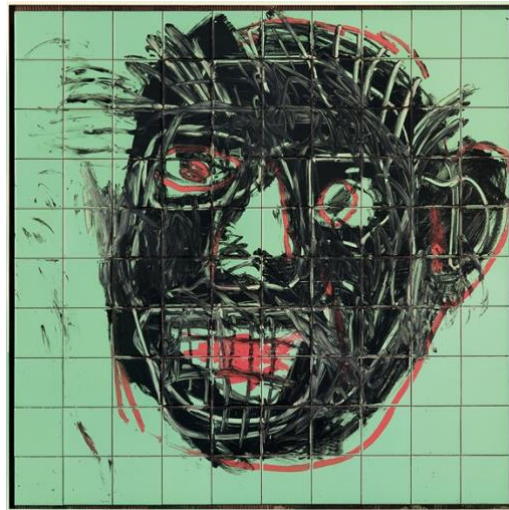
The arrival of spring brings with it a slew of incredible exhibitions by some of the most important artists, from Jean-Michel Basquiat to Dorothea Tanning

BY PAUL LASTER

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Focusing a lens on the best exhibitions in art galleries across America each month, *Galerie* now pinpoints a selection of stellar solo shows in New York this April. From Genesis Tramaine’s painterly portrayals of religious saints and Marina Abramović’s video portraits of her MoMA sitters to Walton Ford’s giant watercolors of mythical creatures and Jean-Michel Basquiat’s energetic artworks on street finds, New York is bursting with great shows to see this spring.



Brett as a Negro, 1982.

PHOTO: © ESTATE OF JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT. LICENSED BY ARTESTAR

“Jean-Michel Basquiat: Art and Objecthood” at Nahmad Contemporary *Opens April 11*

A self-taught artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat initially painted on whatever materials he could find on the street and turned that DIY, altered found object style of creativity into one of the most recognizable trademarks of his unconventional body of artworks. After exhibitions that have focused on his uses of language, historical subject matter and celebrity, the survey “Art and Objecthood”—finely curated by Basquiat scholar Dr. Dieter Buchhart—highlights the artist’s energetic, assisted readymades. Symbolic portraits, such as *Brett as Negro*—expressively capturing artist Brett De Palma’s likeness on green bathroom tiles—and *Untitled (Mary Boone)*, which places the art dealer’s name under a crown on a punching bag, expose Basquiat’s biting wit, while paintings on hinged doors, bedheads and scraps of wood reveal his inventiveness. From doodles on refrigerators and file cabinets to spray-painted and brushed imagery on foam and packing blankets, the show presents a studio of the street, where one man’s trash become another man’s treasure.