

ARTNEWS

Spring Preview: The Most Promising Museum Shows and Biennials Around the World

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This spring is shaping up to be a busy season on the art calendar, with both the Whitney Biennial and the Venice Biennale opening within weeks of each other in May, and notable exhibitions taking place all over in the coming months, from a trailblazing survey of art after the Stonewall Rebellion to retrospectives for Lino Bo Bardi, Huma Bhabha, Luchita Hurtado, and El Anatsui, to biennials in Havana and Honolulu. And this is not even including gallery shows and—one hesitates to even say it—art fairs. Below, a look at the winter’s most promising museum shows and biennials.

[...]

“Cauleen Smith: We Already Have What We Need”

MASS MoCA, North Adams, Massachusetts

Opens May 25

Upon entering the 2017 Whitney Biennial, visitors immediately saw a series of banners by Cauleen Smith. Adorned with phrases written in cursive such as “I’m so black that I blind you” and “Rage looms within me,” they acted as protest signs and assertions of Smith’s presence as a black woman within a traditionally white space. Some of these works are to be featured in this show, which is being billed as Smith’s most comprehensive exhibition to date. Spanning MASS MoCA’s entire first floor, the show also includes a series of drawings about literature related to “black fugitivity” and a new video installation about the relationship between viewers and the natural world. —A.G.