

C MAGAZINE

Chandler, Elizabeth Khuri, "The Unmissable List," C Magazine



The Unmissable List

Seven must-see art happenings to mark on your calendar this winter

I At her studio in the Mission District of San Francisco, the artist known as **Koak** sits surrounded by her pastel color-washed works depicting curvilinear women: women chopping, women dancing, women gnawing on things. It's all from her upcoming show at Ghebaly Gallery in Los Angeles, for which Koak thought about a woman in the home, imagining that place as a heat trap, where "all this energy is building up and her spirit breaks that apart," she says. The artist spent her teens in Santa Cruz and graduated from California College of the Arts with an MFA in comics. Picked up by dealer Claudia Altman-Siegel, the oeuvre of the artist—who is a recipient of the Liquitex Research Residency at Minnesota Street Project—incorporates an illustrative sensibility with painterly, Picasso-like compositions. "Every time I make a piece, I always try to convey a mix of emotions: happiness, fear, guilt, tenderness...connection," she says. *"Koak," Dec. 15-Jan. 19. 2245 E. Washington Blvd., L.A., 323-282-5187, ghebaly.com.*

Written by **ELIZABETH KHURI CHANDLER**