

CULTURED

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ART DULY NOTED

Meet the 5 Women Artists Who Own New York This September

This special Armory Week edition of Duly Noted will get you up to speed.

WORDS

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This week officially kicks off *la rentrée* for the art world. With the opening of the 2023 Armory Show (the reason for the season) and the meticulously curated Independent 20th Century—in its second edition, but already an insider favorite—alongside Photofairs, Art on Paper, and the Spring Break Art Show, September in New York feels like a head-spinning throng of the very best contemporary art on offer. “Back to school” for galleries also brings an embarrassment of riches, particularly when it comes to meaningful presentations of work by female artists. This special Armory edition of Duly Noted is here to cut through the noise and bring you the five shows you need to know about this weekend and beyond.

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Koak, *California Landscape #2*, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist and Altman Siegel.

The Breakout Star

Every year, there's a breakout star of Armory Week. This time around, my money is on the artist who goes by **Koak**, presented at the Armory Show by her gallery **Altman Siegel**. I previewed Koak's work for the fair at her Dogpatch, San Francisco studio over the summer, where I experienced her rapturous large-scale landscape-in-progress. It is a masterful ode to the tumultuous terrain of California. "My love of artists like Chiura Obata, Charles E. Burchfield, and Claude Monet was the inspiration for this rain-drenched landscape, with soot-filled floods, distanced fires, and a neon super bloom that echoes a foreboding sun," says Koak. "It is a breath of a moment before whatever nature has in store for us next."

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The artist also has a tight, eloquent show at [Bibeau Krueger gallery](#) opening in New York this week. *The Canary* contains just three works, but “feels like one of those marvelous two-sentence chapters in the middle of a book,” she explains. Environmental health is again omnipresent. “I think the role of the artist is often to be a harbinger, not necessarily of doom but of the human condition of our constantly shifting world.” says Koak. The show is, fittingly, named after the proverbial bird in the coal mine.

"The Canary" will be on view from September 8 through October 14, 2023 at Bibeau Krueger.