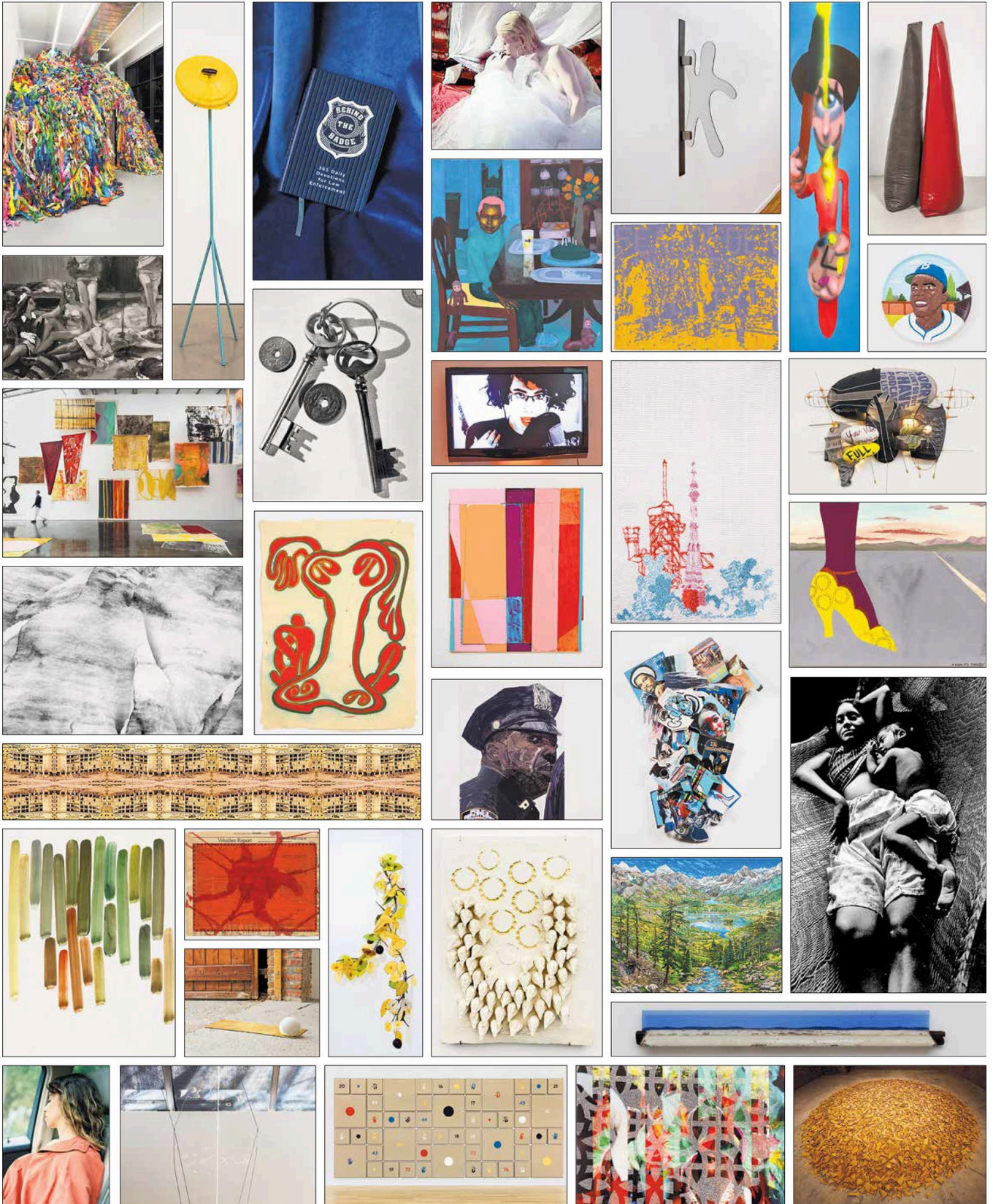


Over 40 Art Shows to See Right Now



Spring Gallery Guide

From Bushwick to Harlem, with many stops in between, our art critics take stock of the best shows this spring.

Spring Gallery Guide: Brooklyn



An installation view of Sara Mejia Kriendler's "Sangre y Sol." She transformed the Chimney gallery from floor to ceiling. Sara Mejia Kriendler and The Chimney; Reggie Shiobara

1. The Chimney, 'Sara Mejia Kriendler: Sangre y Sol'

Industrial art spaces aren't as au courant as they used to be, but Brooklyn and Queens still have their fair share. The Chimney rightly embraces the roughness of its home by commissioning artists to create work for its brick walls and concrete floor. [Sara Mejia Kriendler](#) has even extended her [solo show](#) onto the ceiling, covering it with mounds of gold-tinted foil. Down below, broken terra-cotta hands are piled in a huge circle on the ground, like the remnants of an ancient society or mysterious ritual. Inspired by her Colombian roots, Ms. Kriendler uses simplicity and scale to turn the gallery into a space that feels simultaneously sacred and profane. **Through May 5 at 200 Morgan Avenue, Bushwick; thechimneynyc.com.**

SPRING GALLERY GUIDE | JILLIAN STEINHAUER

A Brand and a Haven for Creative Sorts

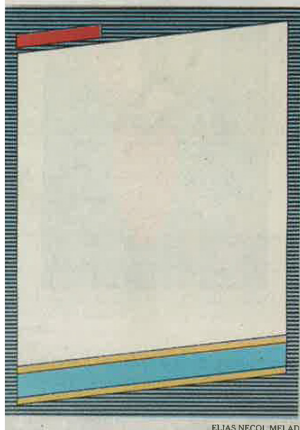


BROOKLYN Like so much else in Brooklyn these days, the art scene there seems to be in flux. Galleries that were familiar presences have closed; others have changed names and moved to Manhattan. Neighborhoods that previously served as linchpins now have fewer dedicated art spaces; rents are high, and other parts of the city promise greater foot traffic. Yet in a way, transition has always been central to a geographically scattered scene that's uneven in its offerings and anchored by a handful of larger nonprofits alongside a rotating cast of small spaces run as labors of love. Even commercial operations seem to work differently here: Jenkins Johnson Gallery's outpost aims to build a relationship with the surrounding community (and its coming show "Free to Be," featuring Rico Gatson and Baseera Khan, should be worth a visit). Part of the thrill of seeing art in Brooklyn is that you don't quite know what you're going to get. This list is just a sample of what Brooklyn has to offer. It will take you from Bushwick down to Park Slope and focuses on exhibitions that are, quite loosely, about identity. These artists are exploring how cultural, national, social and other factors shape us, even as they take very different approaches. It's a fitting theme for a borough that, despite becoming a brand, is still a haven for those looking to make a creative life in New York City.

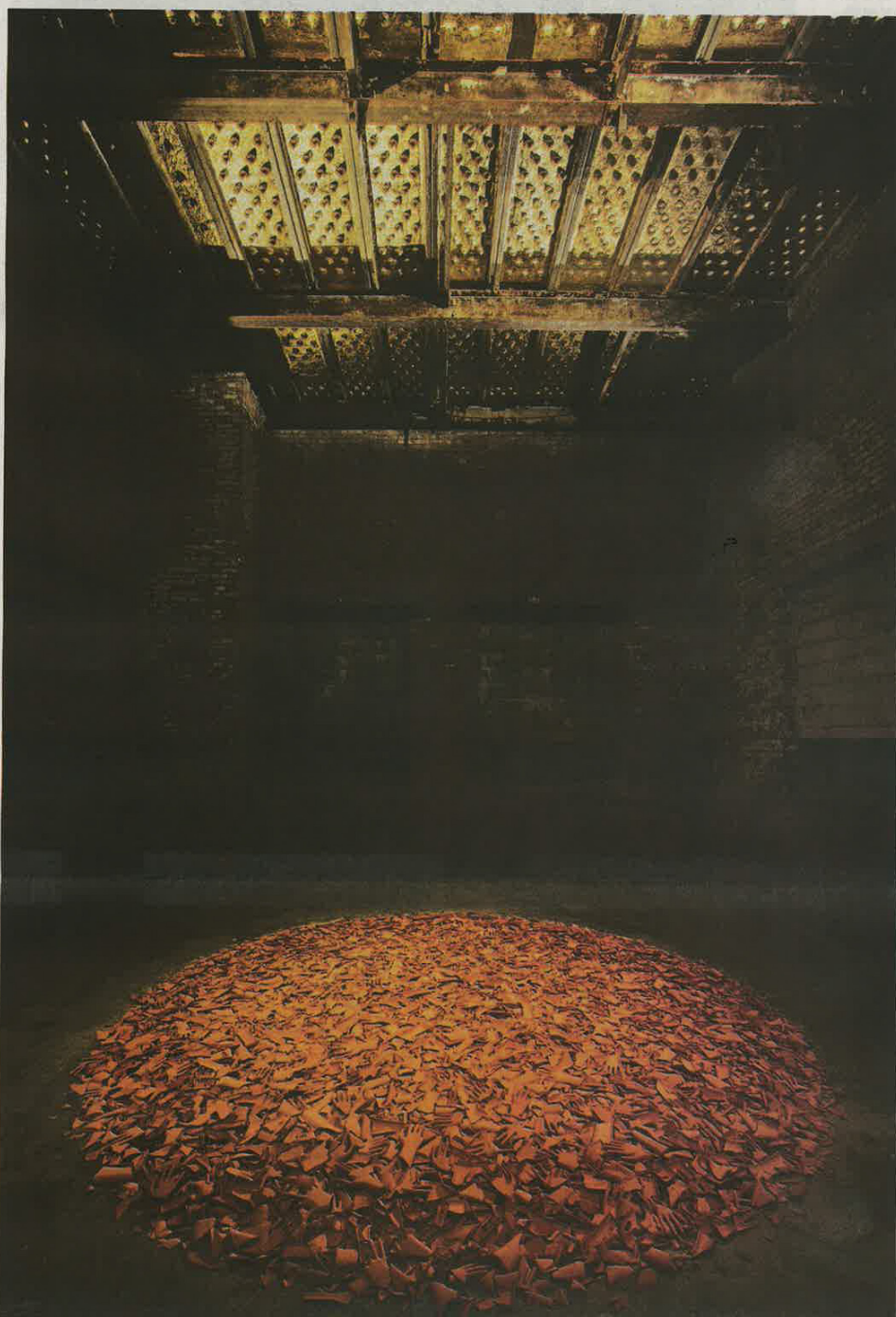
1. THE CHIMNEY, 'SARA MEJIA KRIENDLER: SANGRE Y SOL' Industrial art spaces aren't as au courant as they used to be, but Brooklyn and Queens still have their fair share. The Chimney rightly embraces the roughness of its home by commissioning artists to create work for its brick walls and concrete floor. Sara Mejia Kriendler has even extended her solo show onto the ceiling, covering it with mounds of gold-tinted foil. Down below, broken terra-cotta hands are piled in a huge circle on the ground, like the remnants of an ancient society or mysterious ritual. Inspired by her Colombian roots, Ms. Kriendler uses simplicity and scale to turn the gallery into a space that feels simultaneously sacred and profane. Through May 5 at 200 Morgan Avenue, Bushwick; thechimneynyc.com.

2. TIGER STRIKES ASTEROID NY, 'BASEBALL SHOW' The seven galleries in this building have had consistently strong programs. Tiger Strikes Asteroid is one of the smaller spaces but regularly swings for the fences, focusing on solo presentations for underrepresented artists and group exhibitions with unusual themes, like the current "baseball show." Organized by Andrew Prayzner, the show brings together an array of astute work, including Elias Necol Melad's clever paintings of baseball cards and Christopher Gideon's incriminating scans that show dipping tobacco tins in players' pockets. The nine artists treat the sport not simply as a beloved pastime but as a cultural phenomenon worth examining. Through May 5 at 1329 Willoughby Avenue, No. 2A, Bushwick; 347-746-8041, tigerstrikesasteroid.com.

3. RECESS, 'LEX BROWN: THE INSIDE ROOM' and 'AMERICAN ARTIST: BLUE ARE THE FEELINGS THAT LIVE INSIDE ME' The nonprofit Recess does something different than most other art spaces: It gives artists the gallery and roughly two months to realize their projects on-site. So the work happens before the public's eyes, and it's best to visit multiple times to follow the progress. Right now, Lex Brown is building a studio



ELIAS NECOL MELAD



SARA MEJIA KRIENDLER AND THE CHIMNEY, BROOKLYN

Near left, an installation view of Sara Mejia Kriendler's "Sangre y Sol." She transformed the gallery from floor to ceiling. Far left, Elias Necol Melad's "Donruss '86" (2016). Below far left, Peter Krashes's "Red Butterfly" (2019). Below left, American Artist's "blue are the feelings that live inside me, 2."