



THE ART NEWSPAPER

Best shows for... discovering the next hot name

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From gabber-inspired altarpieces to repurposed Brazilian matchboxes—here are four of the best emerging artists showing during London Gallery Weekend

Summer in London is fast approaching, bringing forth grass-stained tennis whites, profuse sweating on the Central Line and, of course, a new batch of up-and-coming artists to discover. And with the market for work by under-30s at a fever pitch, there has never been a better time to acquaint yourself with the next cohort of creatives, especially before they turn from emerging to established in the blink of an eye. After all, stars rise fast in the art world and prices even more so. To help you out, we've chosen four young(ish) artists showing during London Gallery Weekend who look set to make their mark on the city's scene.



Christian Quin Newell and *The Impermanence of Mental Formations: clinging to notions of power - Part 1*, 2020
Courtesy of the artist and Public Gallery

Christian Quin Newell: *Earth Altar*

Until 3 July, Public, 91 Middlesex St, E1 7DA

Aliens, ninjas and knights are among a host of mystical and fantasy-based characters inhabiting the paintings of the Italian born, London-raised artist Christian Quin Newell, whose first solo show imagines a dream-like collection of scenes from feudal and present-day Japan and Europe. Touching on themes of karmic retribution and filled with mysterious semiotic marks, they borrow heavily from art historical sources, in particular the palettes and underpainting techniques of the Venetian Renaissance.

Smaller works on wax paper also draw on Newell's formal study of Indian miniatures, using natural semi-precious pigments such as cinnabar and malachite to render exquisite, vivid colours. Apparent throughout the works is a painstaking attention to process, with underdrawing marks often left visible, emphasising both a reverence and antipathy towards the discipline of painting. Curiously, Newell says that he chooses the scenes he will paint by rolling a dice, and uses the number it lands on to determine which on page in a character studies book he will find a figure to depict.

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