



THE ART NEWSPAPER

The Art Newspaper
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*Ten exhibitions to see in
New York City this autumn*
September 1, 2023

Exhibitions
Preview

Ten exhibitions to see in New York City this autumn

From large-scale surveys of Judy Chicago and Ed Ruscha, to showcases of Barkley L. Hendricks's portraits, Ruth Asawa's works on paper, Shary Boyle's surreal ceramics, Korean experimental art and more



Ali Cherri, *The Dreamer*, 2023.
Photo courtesy of Ali Cherri Studio.

Ali Cherri: *Humble and quiet and soothing as mud*
Swiss Institute, 13 September 2023-7 January 2024

Ali Cherri's first solo exhibition in the US represents a next step and a look back, both literally grounded in earth. A newly commissioned installation combines mud-bodied sculptures and kinetic lighting to reinterpret the Sumerian epic of Gilgamesh, the mythical king who defied the gods to pursue the secret of eternal life. The sculptures bear faces made of (allegedly) ancient masks and fragments of artefacts purchased by Cherri at auction, surfacing tensions between legend, history and commerce. One floor above is *Of Men and Gods and Mud* (2022), the three-channel film installation that propelled him to the 2022 Venice Biennale's Silver Lion for a promising young participant in the central exhibition. Set at the Merowe Dam, a hydroelectric project whose construction displaced more than 50,000 residents of northern Sudan, the work follows a seasonal brickmaker who channels supernatural life into a large mud figure embodying his comrades' strife. **T.S.**