

The Must-See Exhibitions During Paris Gallery Weekend 2020

After three months of closed galleries and museums, exhibitions in the French capital are open again and Oriane Durand picks the best shows to see



Eliza Douglas, 'Lord of the Fucking Wasteland', 2020, exhibition view, Air de Paris, Romainville. Courtesy: the artist and Air de Paris; photograph: Marc Damage

Eliza Douglas, 'Lord of the Fucking Wasteland'

Brice Dellsperger, 'Solitaires'

[Air de Paris](#)

20 June – 30 July 2020

Like punching bags or animal carcasses, the 11 canvases by Eliza Douglas in 'Lord of the Fucking Wasteland' hang from the ceiling of Air de Paris's first-floor gallery on large metal chains. Each depicts a segment of a crumpled T-shirt printed with images of manga superheroes, the walking dead or race-car drivers. Dominating the space like slick advertising hoardings, Douglas's hyperrealistic paintings make us consider the cynical production and consumption of mass-marketing images. Beyond its remit to sell, such imagery is soon rendered obsolete by time and emotionally powerless due to its overabundant presence.



Brice Dellsperger, 'Solitaires', 2020,
exhibition view, Air de Paris,
Romainville. Courtesy: the artist
and Air de Paris; photograph: Marc
Damage

On the gallery's second floor, Brice Dellsperger's exhibition, 'Solitaires', reflects on normalized gender as represented in Hollywood. A series of gouaches on paper accompany two new works in the artist's 'Body Double' series (1995–ongoing). The video installation *Body Double 36* (2019) references an aerobics-class sequence from the 1985 James Bridges film *Perfect*. Enacted by Jean Biche – a trans performer who embodies both the teacher and the participants – the scene oscillates between humour and exacerbated narcissism. *Body Double 37*, for its part, takes up a scene from Brian de Palma's *Dressed to Kill* (1980), with the artist himself embodying the two characters: a psychologist disguised as both a (different) man and a woman. This unsettling work raises important questions around gender fluidity and identity.