

Five Shows to See in Paris

Monday morning dread and the feeling of being watched—two hot topics in Paris right now.

Words by Jessica Saxby



Jennifer May Reiland, Self-portrait Watching Bullfight Videos on Sunday Night, 2017

When Paris Photo drew to a close last Sunday, it marked the end of Paris's short but intense art fair season through October and November. While some galleries here have descended into recoup mode, the joyous lull that now befalls the so-called international art world until Art Basel Miami Beach is nonetheless generously filled with some brilliant shows across the French capital. Paris is still clutching at the last of the autumnal glow, so the time is ripe to venture out and take a last lap of the city's galleries before the end of the year.



Joseph Grigely at Air de Paris

Air de Paris is celebrating twenty years of collaboration with American artist Joseph Grigely this year, conferring him a solo show at their gallery in Paris's 13th arrondissement to mark the occasion. When Grigely went deaf at the age of ten, his means of conversing with the world was radically altered; this one fact dominates his creation and underscores the exhibition. There are imagined musical scores and small sketches, as well collections of notes scrawled on napkins, Post-it notes and train tickets, accompanied by short typed up texts, sometimes theorizing Grigely's now one-way relationship with language, sometimes simply giving context. Grigely's work is truly affecting and, most importantly, radically reframes the role of art as a means of communication, unfolding this idea and turning it on its head. These hastily scrawled notes, a most concentrated form of communication, become rich works of art.

Until 6 January