

# MARTOS GALLERY

Pedro, Laila, "Best of 2017: Our Top 20 NYC Art Shows," *Hyperallergic*, December 20, 2017

## HYPERALLERGIC

### Best of 2017: Our Top 20 NYC Art Shows

It was a powder keg of a year in visual art, with strong, politically inflected, deeply personal, and wildly inventive exhibitions that touched on the classics, courted controversy, and yielded new favorites.



(illustration by Hrag Vartanian/Hyperallergic)

It's been a tumultuous, exciting year for visual art in New York City, with no shortage of controversy; beloved artists getting their due; and exciting, inventive curation from major museums to independent galleries. New York art lovers seem ever more willing to get off the beaten path, and museums in the Bronx and Queens were particularly rewarding of an adventurous spirit. Here are the best shows we saw this year.

## 19. *Invisible Man* at Martos Gallery



Pope.L, "Pedestal" (2017), dimensions variable

*May 3-June 24*

Martos Gallery inaugurated its new Chinatown space with a sophisticated show of conceptual artists dealing with how bodies move through, are shaped by, and transform fixed systems.

From Pope.L's 2017 "Pedestal," a suspended, slowly dripping water fountain facing an untouchable glass of water, which evoked this country's legacy of segregating, abusing, and dominating bodies; to Jessica Vaughn's minimal arrangement of seats from Chicago Transit Authority busses to evoke stories of who has been allowed to sit where and why, the show sharply and obliquely revealed the invisible structures that shape us and can come to define us. —LP