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SPOTLIGHT

Visual Arts

January gallery guide

By Max Blue | Special to The Examiner | [Jan 6, 2023](#) Updated [Jan 10, 2023](#)



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The San Francisco art world wastes no time when it comes to kicking off the new year. The third week of January, colloquially referred to as “Art Week,” features dozens of gallery openings and events coinciding with FOG, The City’s annual art and design fair. If you’re looking for something to complement your trip to FOG or tide you over between now and then, here’s a guide to the best art on view in The City this month.

Koak: ‘Letter to Myself (when the world is on fire)’

Painter and sculptor Koak returns with her second solo exhibition of paintings, drawings and sculptures at Altman Siegel opening Jan. 17. Where her first exhibition with the gallery at the start of the pandemic in May 2020 was marked by a sense of isolation, incongruously showcasing work rooted in a time when human touch was taken for granted, her newest body of work reveals the product of that isolation — a turn toward landscape painting and representations of lonely figures. The artist’s gestural renderings of the human form and appealing color palettes offer an inviting basis for her dissonant exploration of how one copes in a culture of disaster narratives. *Altman Siegel, 1150 25th St., S.F. Free. altmansiegel.com*