

## Summer Preview: The Most Promising Museum Shows and Biennials Around the World

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Summer is travel season for many, and museums around the world are rising to the occasion, hosting a bevy of must-see shows. The Minneapolis Institute of Art promises to break new ground with its exhibition of Native women artists, and the Museu de Arte de São Paulo is staging what could be a radical revision of art history that incorporates proto-feminist perspectives. On the retrospective front, there are major shows for Dora Maar, Mrinalini Mukherjee, Virgil Abloh, Natalia Goncharova, Image Bank, and many others. Below, a look at the season's most promising shows.

### **“Queer Abstraction” Des Moines Art Center, Iowa Through September 8**

Organized by Jared Ledesma, this show will look at the ways in which artists have turned to abstraction as direct responses to specific moments in history, from when Marsden Hartley painted his fallen lover at a time when homosexuality was criminalized in many places through Felix Gonzalez-Torres's poetic mediations on the AIDS crisis of the 1980s and '90s. Also included in the show are works by Louise Fishman, Math Bass, Harmony Hammond, Mark Bradford, Carrie Moyer, Sheila Pepe, and Prem Sahib, as well as new commissions by Elijah Burgher, Mark Joshua Epstein, and Tom Burr. It's not the first-ever survey ever of its kind (the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art in New York had a landmark one in 2017), but it's a step forward for the museum field, and for the Des Moines Art Center, which, like many arts institutions, has never before staged an exhibition devoted exclusively to queer art. —*M.D.*

### **“Less Is a Bore: Maximalist Art & Design” Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston June 26–September 22**

This multigenerational survey takes a look at art and design with a decidedly unminimalist bent. “Less Is a Bore” starts in the 1970s with artists related to the Pattern and Decoration movement, which relied on extravagant “low” materials like patterned fabrics as a feminist rejoinder to Minimalism, and traces how various over-the-top tendencies have evolved over the years. Among the works to be included are an installation by Polly Apfelbaum, sculpture by Lucas Samaras, furniture by Ettore Sottsass, and patterning by Jasper Johns. —*J.C.*