


What's the Forecast?

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New Narratives

Some of the strongest shows we have seen this past season were in the realm of abstraction, by artists with some history behind them, such as Cecily Brown. Consider too Frank Bowling, whose work had previously not been elevated to the level it deserved, which it now seems destined to reach.

People who were not given a voice have stories to tell. Many artists from communities that have historically been sidelined are now making their presence felt. Most of the vital contemporary art today is narrative in nature, particularly that by younger African American artists.

We are now able to go back in time and reconsider the work of leading artists from earlier generations, such as Emma Amos and Faith Ringgold, for whom narrative did not once have as meaningful a frame of reference.



Emma Amos, *Flower Sniffer*, (1966) © 2018 Emma Amos/Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY. Image courtesy the artist and RYAN LEE Gallery, New York. Collection of the Brooklyn Museum of Art