

Lower East Side's Best Art Exhibitions Bring Us Brave New Subgenres of Abstraction

By [Paddy Johnson](#) · 02/27/20 3:46pm



Installation view of Julia Bland and Michelle Segre's work at Derek Eller Gallery. Derek Eller Gallery

Abstraction has arrived in the Lower East Side. A visit to the neighborhood's galleries this month reveals a near survey of contemporary approaches using this technique. But while terms for more established subsets of abstraction abound—geometric, biomorphic, non-objective—few exist for the newer approaches populating contemporary galleries. Observer has a fix for that. I've taken the liberty of coming up with a few terms myself to help gallerygoers out. Read and memorize these terms. Share them with your friends. They're all new movements—and you read about them first here.

[...]Another hot genre in the LES: "Broken Carnival Set Abstraction." You'll know it when you see it. It looks something like the fiber art of Julia Bland and Michelle Segre at Derek Eller, which fill the gallery with dreamcatcher-shaped sculptures and cave-palette tapestries. In sum, the exhibition creates a brightly colored yet mildly dangerous-seeming playground. Anyone attempting to do actual circus acts here would definitely get hurt.