

Shows & Exhibitions

Artists to Watch This Month: 10 Solo Gallery Exhibitions to Seek Out in September in New York

Annikka Olsen, September 6, 2023

Austin Martin White

“Lost in the Sauce” at Derek Eller Gallery, September 5–October 7, 2023

“Family Dysphoria” at Petzel, September 13–November 4, 2023



Austin Martin White, *troubled heritage* (book cover) (2023). Courtesy of the artist and Derek Eller Gallery, New York.

Based in Philadelphia, Austin Martin White has a double-header of gallery exhibitions going on view this month: a show of new paintings at Derek Eller Gallery, “Lost in the Sauce,” and “Familiar Dysphoria” at Petzel, which has announced concurrent representation of the artist. The artist’s simultaneous shows are a feat, considering his very first solo was held only last year at Capitain Petzel in Berlin.

For this recent body of work, White researched 18th-century colonial Mexico, in particular the genre of “casta” paintings, which served as a tool of racial codification based on an individual’s proximity to whiteness. For the artist, a large part of the impetus behind this line of inquiry comes from uncertainty surrounding his own familial ancestry; he uses his art as a means to explore notions of belonging. In White’s compositions, hierarchies of identity and historical memory are made material through layers of paint, acrylic medium, and spray paint across surfaces such as screened mesh, resulting in highly tactile, emotionally charged compositions that resist easy reading.



Austin Martin White, *Three framed works (casta)* (2023). Courtesy of the artist and Petzel, New York.