

The Best Art Shows of 2016

by DODIE KAZANJIAN

After this roller coaster ride of an election year, it's hard to know where to begin but art—and what artists have to say—is something we need more than ever right now. Artists are fearless. They see things in ways mere mortals can't, and they speak and reveal a kind of truth, one that can heal as well as burn, that others wouldn't dare to say. Despite all the political noise in 2016, there were some standout shows.

Denzil Forrester



I didn't know the work of Forrester, who turned 60 this year and who had two shows running concurrently in New York and London. The one in New York, at White Columns, is curated by Peter Doig and Matthew Higgs, the director of White Columns. (The one in London, at Tramps, is curated by Doig.) Both feature work from the 1980s. The New York work highlights Forrester's on-the-spot paintings and drawings of London's nascent reggae scene, where he went to "all-night 'blues' clubs." White Columns show on view through December 17. Tramps closed December 3.