



Planning to take an Uber or Lyft home from Capitol Hill?

There's a new

THINGS TO DO

MAR 4, 2020

# The Top 13 New Pioneer Square Art Shows to Check Out in March 2020

Two Major Museum Shows, Brain Art, Invisible Labor, and Other Critics' Picks

by [Jasmyne Keimig](#) and [Joule Zelman](#)



**Leah Nguyen's *Soul Pattern Self Portrait* is one of the mystical works in *Conscious Collaboration with Spirit*.**

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On the first Thursday of every month, Seattleites flock to the streets of Pioneer Square for the city's central and oldest **art walk**, which offers opportunities to stroll, sip on wine, and attend as many gallery openings as possible. But, in most cases, the shows are up for longer than just one night, and the historic neighborhood is a great place to check out art any day of the year. So, below, we've compiled the most

promising exhibits that are having opening receptions on March 5, like **Justin Duffus** and Seattle Art Museum's free **John Akomfrah and Georgia O'Keeffe Community Opening**—complete with a Google map at the bottom. You can also find more options on our **First Thursday calendar**, including shorter-term events like the **OK Underground Art Show**. For art in other neighborhoods, check out our complete **visual art calendar**.

***PSA:** As you're making plans to go out in Seattle, remember that it's important to always wash your hands and stay home if you're sick. In light of the **coronavirus**, King County Public Health **is recommending**, but not requiring, that people at higher risk of severe illness should stay home and away from large groups of people as much as possible. The organizers of First Thursday **have noted** that the event will take place as usual.*

## **CoCA's Annual Members' Show: 20/20 Vision**

CoCA's annual member show boasts the work of more than 115 artists, some of whom are represented in a digital slide show and print catalog. Some notable participants include locals like Susan Gans, Zoe Xiao, Leah Gerrard, KT Hancock, Troy Gua, and Eliaichi Kimaro. Other artists hail from New York, Vancouver BC, and many cities and towns of Washington State.

**CoCA**

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**Hayley Williams is coming to the Moore Theatre on May 28!**

Tickets on sale this Friday, May 13

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## **Conscious Collaboration with Spirit**

Pulsing rainbow colors, mystical patterns, and half-submerged figures emerge from art practices of "collaboration with spirit," as the organizers describe them. See intriguing work by Hayley Barker, Emily Counts, Sara Long, Jean Nagai, Leah Nguyen, Nicholas Nyland, and Elizabeth Traina.

## **SOIL**

### **Immigrants' Songs**

Five immigrant artists from across the globe who are living in the US—Filmon Adelehey from Eritrea, Carlos Barberana from Nicaragua, Lou Beach from Poland, Ashkon Hadari from Iran, and Yulia Kusnetsova from Russia—show work that celebrates their cultures and the diversity they bring to America.

### **Frederick Holmes**

## **John Akomfrah and Georgia O'Keeffe Community Opening**

You're invited to attend the exciting new exhibitions *John Akomfrah: Future History* and *Georgia O'Keeffe: Abstract Variations* for free. Plus, enjoy music, performances, and art-making.

## **Seattle Art Museum**

### **Justin Duffus**

The work of Seattle-based artist Justin Duffus resembles something long forgotten but recently remembered. Which makes sense, as he bases his paintings off found photographs that often depict the domestic or mundane aspects of American private life: birthday parties, public pool swimming, baptisms. His subjects often bleed

into abstraction or incompleteness, their settings becoming a wash of color built up over layers of paint, his hand becoming ever clearer. You get a sense of connectedness through these cultural rituals we all take a part in. **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

**Linda Hodges Gallery**

**Karey Kessler: here is the Place**

Kessler likes to play with topographical imagery and words. In her latest show, she ponders environmental change, geological time, and the links between spirituality and locale, drawing on the "Hebrew word for 'the Place,' *ha-Makom*, [which] is also used as a name for God."

**Shift Gallery**

**Leah Gerrard, Sean Pearson: Indirect Course**

As Jasmyne Keimig has written, "Leah Gerrard's wiry creations speak to the delicacy—and rigidity—of the material. Gerrard incorporates the natural (rocks, wood, organic forms) into the metallic sinew of the wire, which is often suspended from rusty iron chains." Gerrard's work is accompanied by works by Sean Pearson, a maker of "dystopic drawings and sculptures."

**Shift Gallery**

**Nola Avienne: Brain Flow**

Nola Avienne makes art that Jen Graves once called "scarier than *Jaws*." *Brain Flow* is a series of watercolors based on magnetic resonance angiography brain scans, which allow you to see the network of blood vessels. This is science-literate, spooky stuff.

**SOIL**

## **Northwest Abstractions**

In conjunction with the Seattle Art Museum's opening of ***Georgia O'Keeffe: Abstract Variations***, the gallery brings together work by skilled contemporary abstract artists Alfred Harris, Anna Macrae, and Laura Thorne.

### **SAM Gallery**

#### **Qwalsius (Shaun Peterson) & Andrea Grant**

These two Coast Salish creatives will present *Killer Whale-Wolf & the Isle of Women*, a retelling of classic Coast Salish stories adapted by poet Grant and illustrated by artist Qwalsius (aka Shaun Peterson). During the month of March, you can see Qwalsius's illustrations digitally printed on paper and aluminum panel.

### **Stonington Gallery**

#### **Ramiro Gomez**

The paintings of Los Angeles-based artist Ramiro Gomez recall the bright, pristine works of David Hockney. The blaring blue sky, the green grass, the stark white walls, the economy of figures and emotions. But Gomez takes these scenes a step further, centering the people who maintain these pristine spaces and are often left out—Latino landscapers, janitors, maids, and valets. Using his perspective as the child of undocumented immigrants from Mexico and being a former nanny of a West Hollywood family, Gomez makes visible the “invisible” labor in LA, unspooling the racial and class dynamics inherent in wealthy spaces. **JASMYNE KEIMIG**

### **Greg Kucera Gallery**

## **Todd Jannausch: Now So Dreamlike**

In past exhibitions, Jannausch has played with everyday objects like tools, nails, and wheelbarrows, altering them so that their utilitarian purposes are subverted. This new show seems to use similar concepts to investigate ideas of shared experience and individuality.

## **Traver Gallery**

## **Tony Angell: Drawings in Stone**

Tony Angell's naturalistic, energetic bird sculptures, here carved in slate and bronze relief, are enriched by his studies of corvidae, seabirds, and owls, about which he has published several books. You may already have seen his works at the Seattle Aquarium, the Frye, or the Woodland Park Zoo.

## **Foster/White Gallery**

A dark blue rectangular button with a white lowercase 'f' icon on the left and the text 'Share on Facebook' in white on the right.

[f Share on Facebook](#)

A bright blue rectangular button with a white bird icon on the left and the text 'Share on Twitter' in white on the right.

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**Jasmyne Keimig**



Jasmyne Keimig is a staff writer at *The Stranger*, covering visual arts, music, film, queer stuff, stickers, and culture. She also writes half of Unstreamable, a weekly column about films you can't find on major streaming services. She cries easily at movies.



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## Joule Zelman

Joule Zelman is Stranger EverOut's arts calendar editor and, not coincidentally, suffers from chronic FOMO. She spends her free time writing stories about hauntings and humanimals. She wants you dinguses to remember that every intersection is an unmarked crosswalk.



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