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Editor's Picks: 5 Queer Art Shows to See in NYC

A broad spectrum of art is on view at these New York LGBTQ- focused exhibitions. Here's are our must-see choices for a gallery crawl.

by William Van Meter • January 29, 2024

Brian Buczak, “Man Looks at the World” at Gordon-Robichaux and Ortuzar Projects



Brian Buczak *Male Painting [View 1]*, (c. 1980). Courtesy Gordon Robichaux and Ortuzar Projects New York

Brian Buczak, who died of AIDS at age 33 in 1987, is getting his first solo exhibition since 1989 with a concurrent joint show at Gordon Robichaux in the Flat Iron and Ortuzar Projects in Tribeca with "Man Looks at the World." Most of the works displayed had been hidden away for decades at the townhouse and studio he shared with his partner, the Fluxus artist Geoffrey Hendricks who passed in 2018 (Alice Neel painted the duo, and Hendricks commissioned Phillip Glass to compose a requiem piece for Buczak).

Buczak wielded an arsenal of mediums and styles, but the Gordon Robichaux component focuses on his usage of symbology that incorporated Masonic imagery, corporate logos, Buddhist philosophy, porn mags, comics, phallic tower and silos, as well as breathtaking vistas. It was as if he was trying to simplify and make sense of the sensory overload of modern life and his place in it (as well as his destiny), juxtaposing visions of the westward-ho American dream and scenic buttes next to a hardcore cop three-way. In his spare time, he'd stencil his runic language on abandoned buildings.

"Man Looks at the World" runs until February 17, at Gordon Robichaux, 41 Union Square West, #925 and #907 New York, NY and at Ortuzar Projects, 9 White Street, NY, NY.