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ART THIS WEEK IN CULTURE

Here Are the 12 Must-See Gallery Exhibitions in New York This Spring

WORDS

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From cryptic creatures to cyanotype rituals—here's what to see in the city this season.



Takako Yamaguchi, *Innocent Bystander #4*, 1988. Image courtesy of the artist and Ortuzar.

“Innocent Bystander” by Takako Yamaguchi

Where: Ortuzar

When: Through May 31

Why It’s Worth a Look: Melding Art Nouveau ornamentation with Japanese decorative traditions and Renaissance nudes lifted from Lucas Cranach the Elder, Takako Yamaguchi’s paintings are lush, layered acts of pastiche. Beneath their beauty lies a meditation on detachment, historical amnesia, and willful irreverence—it’s a playful yet pointed rebuttal to Modernist restraint.

Know Before You Go: Look closely, and you’ll see metallic eruptions, Rorschach-like blots, and wispy “spermatozoa” spill across the surfaces—subtle intrusions that unravel the illusion and charge these fantasy landscapes with surreal, erotic energy.