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6 Must-See Shows to Catch at Museums in Europe This Summer

From 100 years of pan-African figurative painting to Matthew Barney's world tour.

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Who said the art world goes on vacation all summer? Not us! There are many fantastic shows to see if you are passing through the major hubs in Europe this season, from Berlin to Luxembourg to Vienna.

Here are our picks and why our writers and editors think they are worth a look.

2. Matthew Barney at the Fondation Cartier, Paris

Through September 8, 2024



Matthew Barney SECONDARY. (2023) © Matthew Barney. Production still: Julieta Cervantes. Courtesy of the artist, Gladstone Gallery, Sadie Coles HQ, Regen Projects, and Galerie Max Hetzler

The conceptual artist Matthew Barney has a five-exhibition outing this summer. His 2023 film Secondary launched at his large studio that looks onto the East River in New York last spring, and now it is on a world tour, with stops in four cities.

The work takes up football (American football, that is), a sport Barney once played; as a young child he was haunted by the onscreen injury of Darryl Stingily, a wide receiver for the New England Patriots who was paralyzed after being hit by Oakland Raiders safety Jack Tatum in 1978. Including several performers, Secondary considers the rituals of this highly physical sport and what it says about the human psyche.

Also at Fondation Cartier is Barney's celebrated work *Drawing Restraint*, an earlier work that is similarly a performative act of endurance. There are iterations of viewable at several of his galleries: at Max Hetzler in Paris (through July 25, 2024); Gladstone Gallery, New York, (through July 26, 2024); at Sadie Coles in London (through July 27, 2024); Regen Projects in Los Angeles (through August 17, 2024). Each show includes the film along with related works that were inspired from it, including many new ceramics.