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Holland Cotter, "Best Art of 2024," The New York Times, December 12, 2024

The New York Times

Best Art of 2024

This was a year whose high points included Joan Jonas's luminous survey, the extravaganza "PST ART," and the 24-karat beauty of a show "Siena: The Rise of Painting, 1300-1350."



By Holland Cotter

Dec. 12, 2024

Art-wise, 2024 had an in-between-things vibe. It was a year of big-deal biennials, but the consensus was that none delivered much firepower. There was a lot of talk about money — what sold for what, and to whom — but no radically record-busting news. In general, the institutional art world veered, as it always does, between uplift (some strong museum shows) and cringe (the \$6.2 million banana). I'll go mostly with uplift in the (unranked) list of highlights below.

Joan Jonas

How to be long-term luminous was the lesson taught by "Joan Jonas: Good Night Good Morning" at the Museum of Modern Art, a six-decade survey of the still intensely active career of one of our most inventive contemporary artists. Over the years, Jonas, now 88, has broken experimental ground in video, photography, performance, conceptual art and installation, giving everything she touches the warmth of a watchfully lived life. It's evident from gallery to gallery at MoMA, and in a concurrent show of works on paper, "Joan Jonas: Animal, Vegetable, Mineral," at the Drawing Center in SoHo. (*Read our review of "Joan Jonas: Good Night Good Morning."*)