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6 Must-See Artists Showing at Condo New York 2019

From the dreamlike paintings of Miguel Cardenas to Katinka Bock's smashed ceramics, here's what not to miss

by PAUL LASTER
JULY 10, 2019



Nick Doyle, *Heading West*, 2019. Photo: Paul Laster/Courtesy Reyes|Finn, Detroit.

5. Nick Doyle

56 Henry, Hosting Reyes|Finn, Detroit

Dealing with the notion of the masculine ideal, Brooklyn-based Nick Doyle constructs real objects at a larger-than-life scale with denim, plywood, and paint. A master craftsman and prop builder, Doyle's neo-pop products look like the real thing for giants.

Developing a narrative around the idea of a road trip, his exhibition "No Vacancy" gives the sense of a night at a Motel 6 after a long day. A crushed pack of Marlboros, a Motel 6 matchbook, a pair of Alka-Seltzer tablets, and a light switch offer the image of a traveling salesman bedding down for the night, but a key to a Ford on a ring with a Western logo and a push-button phone that's off the hook make the scenario seem somewhat more nostalgic.

However, at the center of the show is the miniature Executive Toy; *Make It Stop*, which becomes another key of sorts—one that unlocks and completes the implied narrative.

A wind-up toy figure of a suited man in bed with a bag over his head and a knife in his hand, he has a winding key in his crotch, which, when wound, causes the character to repeatedly stab himself in the head. Whether it's based on fiction or reality, Doyle's installation presents the concept of toxic masculinity in a gut-wrenching yet surprisingly charming way.