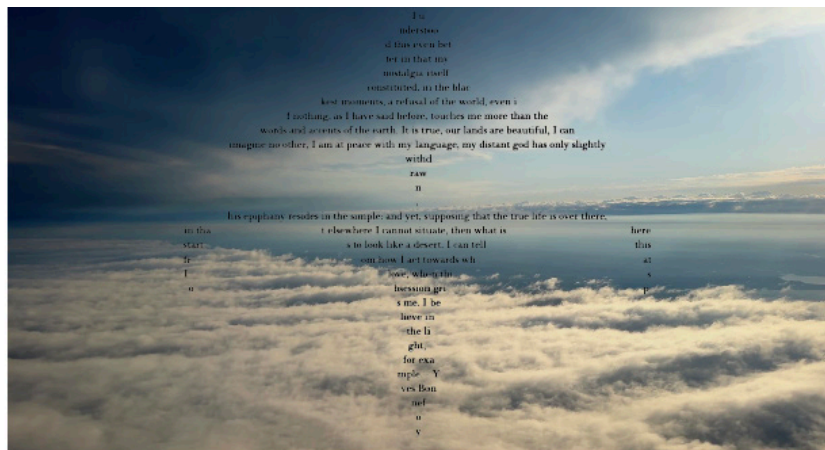


ArtReview

The 10 Exhibitions to See in May 2025



Sky Hopinka, *He Who Wears Faces on His Ears*, 2025, HD video, stereo, colour, 8 minutes 46

Gallery Weekend Berlin 2025

Various Venues, 2 – 4 May

It's gallery weekend season, baby: Paris, Amsterdam, Beijing, but first up is Berlin. Watch the news and it would seem Berlin's not been doing too well of late. It's the city of radical freethinking, cultural innovation and unfettered hedonism – unless you're, respectively, protesting genocide, dependent of state funding, or out of earshot of your fintech *nachbarn* or megalandlord. So we might want to focus instead on those using art to tell the untold, or the untellable. The Indigenous American artist Sky Hopkina – whose *Cowboy Mouth* (2022) series of inkjet prints were a highlight of the recent *Widening the Lens* landscape photography survey at Carnegie Museum of Art – will show a new film and recent photographs in *Bone & Light* at Tanya Leighton. In *Cowboy Mouth*, Hopkina laces warm, colour-saturated tableaux of rural American with passages of concretelike poetry in white handwriting, each of them new additions to the Indigenous American poetic tradition (Hopkina is a member of the Ho Chunk Nation). His is a kind of visually flamboyant Gothic, rehaunting technologies of modernity (photography, cinema and its techniques: montage, focus, perspective) with Native language, philosophy and spirituality. Meanwhile at Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Meduza, a team of journalists exiled from Russia, have curated *No*, an exhibition and research project documenting the experience of living under a fascist regime. Germany's own ties to Russia significantly compromised its pre- and postwar response to Vladimir Putin. What, one wonders, might Meduza have to say about censorship and authoritarianism at home, as it begins to rear its head in 'liberal' Europe? And a new exhibition and study group at Spore Initiative, *Unsettled Earth*, foregrounds agrarian initiatives and collectives in Palestine to address how settler-colonial violence attacks land and those who work it – and, by extension, to explore pathways toward ending such domination, violence and ecological destruction. Such study – of history and a speculative future – are vital acts of epistemic defiance against those who would see Palestinian autonomy erased, and land razed. [Alexander Leissle](#)

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