

# ARTnews

## 12 LGBTQ+ Artists Having Institutional Shows This Pride Month

BY HOWARD HALLE June 23, 2023



Jacolby Satterwhite, "Spirits Roaming on the Earth," installation view, Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, March 10–August 13, 2023.  
COURTESY DUSTY KESSLER.

Pride Month is here, and while the celebrations go on as they always do, this year's have been shadowed by a wave of trans- and homophobic incidents as well as by a spate of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation coming out of Republican-controlled statehouses. Elements on the right seem bent on forcing the LGBTQ+ community back into the closet, but unfortunately for them, they're too late: Whether it's in the courts or at the polls, they're unlikely to succeed in the long run.

The spirit of Pride continues, as does the vital place of queer people in American society and culture. And there is no better evidence of that than the current slate of institutional exhibitions by LGBTQ+ artists across the country. Below are 12 shows we

recommended by a variety of artists working in multiple mediums who keep the rainbow flag flying high and proud.

## Lyle Ashton Harris



Lyle Ashton Harris, *Succession*, 2020.

For some 35 years, Lyle Ashton Harris (b. 1965) has been exploring the impact of social and cultural hierarchies on identity, including his own as a queer artist of color. “Lyle Ashton Harris: Our First and Last Love,” a compact career survey at Brandeis University’s Rose Museum, is titled after the message Harris found in a Chinese fortune cookie back in 1993. He’s kept it ever since, and the original is included here, taped into a journal exhibited alongside other ephemera. The phrase is also reprised in a neon piece featuring cursive red lettering set in a black frame. Other notable items include mixed-media collages, some of which are mounted against panels of brightly patterned

West African fabric. The imagery they contain is an eclectic blend of postcards, clippings, pages from magazines, and photos, including family snapshots that, like the show itself, present the full range of Harris's interests from the personal to the political. *Through July 2.*