

CRISTIN TIERNEY

**The New York Times**

## 3 Art Gallery Shows to See Right Now

Shannon Cartier Lucy's luminous scenes of unease; Manoucher Yektai's lyrical impasto works; and Dread Scott's "Slave Rebellion Reenactment."

### Editors' Picks

---

## Dread Scott

Through Dec. 18. Cristin Tierney Gallery, 219 Bowery, second floor, Manhattan; (212) 594-0550, [cristintierney.com](http://cristintierney.com).



Dread Scott's "Slave Rebellion Reenactment Performance," Still 1, (2019), pigment print. Credit...Dread Scott and Cristin Tierney Gallery

Over the course of two days in November 2019, hundreds of Black people marched 24 miles from LaPlace to New Orleans for freedom. They weren't protesting — or maybe they were, in a way, as participants in a socially engaged performance art piece called

# CRISTIN TIERNEY

“[Slave Rebellion Reenactment](#).” Masterminded by the artist [Dread Scott](#), the piece was a recreation of the 1811 German Coast Uprising, a revolt by hundreds of enslaved people in the Territory of Orleans (which became Louisiana). It was the [largest slave uprising](#) in U.S. history, but many Americans know nothing about it. With his ambitious work, Scott — who uses art to stage confrontations with the realities of injustice — tried to reclaim it.

“Slave Rebellion Reenactment” is making its gallery debut as an exhibition titled after one of the marchers’ chants: “[We’re Going to End Slavery. Join Us!](#)” The show is too small to properly represent such a formidable project, but the six large-scale photographs and three handmade flags on view offer a glimpse of the performance’s power. We see Black re-enactors in period costumes moving with passionate determination. Such pictures of Black resistance and liberation seem to fill a historical gap, as a type of image too rarely circulated in public. Yet in some photos, the march is set against a modern backdrop of highways and oil refineries — [pieces of infrastructure](#) often built expressly to [harm communities of color](#) and [perpetuate racism](#). They serve as stark reminders that while slavery may have ended, it will take much more work and imagination to dismantle its legacy.

JILLIAN STEINHAUER