

CRISTIN TIERNEY

# Art & Object

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## 10 Highlights from Zona Maco in Mexico City



COURTESY GALERIE NORDENHAKE, STOCKHOLM, BERLIN, AND MEXICO CITY  
Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, *Study of the Cacaxtla Murals #3*, 2024 Acrylic on carved wooden panel, 180.5 x 180 cm / 71 x 70 7/8 in.

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On February 7, Zona Maco returned to the Centro Citibanamex, Mexico City's massive convention center, to celebrate its 20th edition. The fair, which runs through February 11, 2024 features 140 exhibitors in the art section—ranging from international mega-galleries like Pace, Galeria Continua, GRIMM and Galerie Nordenhake to Mexico City's popular kurimanzutto, Maia Contemporary, OMR and PROYECTOS MONCLOVA in the Main section and such galleries as 193 Gallery, N.A.S.A.L. and Red Arrow in the Emerging sector—along with many more exhibitors in sections devoted to photo, design, books and antiques.

"I'm very happy with the fair this year," Zelika Garcia, the founder of Zona Maco, shared with *Art & Object* when we caught her with collectors in the VIP lounge. "It's great to see so many people back at the fair after a few years. The thing that excites me most this year is the Forma section, which places sculptures and installations throughout the fair. We have never had anything like it, except in the first year, when we launched, and needed to fill the space. This time, we commissioned artists to create [site-specific](#) works, with most of them being sculptural interventions and others as performance art."

*Art & Object* has selected 10 works by artists, who we think are worth following and collecting, from the various sectors. Please scroll through to see our choices of the best artworks at this year's fair.



COURTESY CRISTIN TIERNEY GALLERY, NEW YORK

## Claudia Bitrán, Dancers 11, 2023

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An American painter and video artist, Claudia Bitrán mines the internet for stereotypical subject matter drawn from social media and pop culture. Having created previous works based on the life and celebrity of Britney Spears, her new body of pastel and charcoal drawings on paper illustrate dancers who have worked with the pop musical icon. Combing through internet search engines for images of the dancers and doing a deep dive on their social media sites for photos of them off-stage, the Brooklyn-based artist captures an essence-part real and part imagined -of what it means to play a role in someone else's fame while having to stay in the background. Matching the energy of the dancers' movements with the colors she uses to quickly portray them, Bitrán gives each player a stage on which they can shine.