

Medium
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28.December.2023
Exhibition at FDAG
<https://hyperallergic.com/749015/the-visionary-from-antigua-frank-walter/>

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HYPERALLERGIC

Art

The Top 50 Exhibitions of 2023

We asked our staff and contributors to look back on a year in art around the world, from major museum shows to unexpected gems in alternative spaces.



Hyperallergic December 28, 2023

In the midst of a hyper-charged news cycle throughout 2023, we still managed to see a lot of art and celebrate creativity in all its glorious permutations. We asked *Hyperallergic* staff and contributors to send us a list of their favorite art exhibitions and experiences this year and we've compiled this from that call for submissions. The list may be thin on biennials, since we're mostly bored of them (*who isn't?*), but it's heavy on work by artists who continue to drive the conversations that artists, critics, curators, art historians, and the public are eager to have. —Hrag Vartanian, *Editor-in-Chief and Co-founder*

24. Frank Walter



Frank Walter, "Untitled [View of Dark Water, Hill and Sky]" (undated), oil on single ply cardboard, 9.055 x 12.795 inches (© Kenneth M. Milton Fine Arts Conservator; photo by Eduardo Ortega, courtesy Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel, São Paulo/Rio de Janeiro)

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Hailing from Antigua and Barbuda, self-taught Caribbean painter Frank Walter (1926–2009) has been the subject of a number of recent shows, bringing to light his vast body of work, which includes some 5,000 paintings, as well as poetry, essays, sculptures, and drawings. Walter began painting in the 1960s, after living in England, where he hoped to perfect his knowledge of technology and agriculture (his profession), but instead experienced racism and poverty, reduced to working menial jobs. Barbara Paca, the curator of Frank Walter Archives, organized the gorgeous show at Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel of Walter's miniature oil paintings, often painted on the back of photographs, focusing on his recurring themes of passage and maritime landscapes. Particularly striking are Walter's nocturnal maritime landscapes, with dark muted colors, scant mysterious lights, and dissolving horizons, in which realism fluidly commingles with abstraction. —*Ela Bittencourt*

Fortes D'Aloia & Gabriel Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil (fdag.com.br)
March 4–April 20, 2023
Organized by the gallery