

Art in America

Guide to Museums, Galleries, and Artists

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Curator Dan Nadel on five shows in New York

"The pictures are funny and cutting and hilariously weird."

"Melissa Brown: **Between States**"

through July 6, 2018

Derek Eller Gallery



Finally, there is Melissa Brown's show at Derek Eller. Her new paintings are of the American landscape. One shows the view out the window of a Mexican restaurant in a shopping mall. Another is of a huge alligator wrapped around a Florida swamp. They seem to have been influenced equally by the paintings of Roger Brown and Grant Wood, psychedelic art, and the work of H.C. Westermann, and they evince a wonderful sense of the beauty in the ugliness of America. And as objects they are really interesting, with silkscreen passages, stenciled passages, and passages of virtuoso painting. They're invitingly complicated, which I love. It's a killer show.