

Galerie

ART & CULTURE

8 Must-See Solo Gallery Shows in August

From Andy Warhol's early line drawings at Anton Kern Gallery in New York to Wendy Park's pop culture paintings at Various Small Fires in California's Orange County, these shows are the not to be missed

BY PAUL LASTER

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Installation view of "Steve Keister: Split Level" at Derek Eller, New York.

PHOTO: COURTESY DEREK ELLER



Steve Keister, *Xoloitzcuintle*, 2025

2. Steve Keister | Derek Eller, New York

Inspired by Pre-Columbian art and mythology, Steve Keister creates incredible creatures from clay, cement, wood, and paint. Imaginatively combining fabricated modules to simulate birds, insects, animals, and flowers, he glazes his ceramic details, which are derived from voids in Styrofoam packaging, and paints his geometrically designed wooden parts to energetically animate his characters. In the [exhibition](#) “Split Level,” the New York-based artist features a cast of symbolic characters, including a crocodile to represent Earth, bats to symbolize fertility, a giant demonic mask to signify the god of death and the underworld, and hairless Mexican dogs to guide souls on their journey to the afterlife. Mimicking Mesoamerican architecture and sculpture, Keister transports viewers to a cosmic realm—an ancient culture that once thrived centuries ago but now only exists in our thoughts, spirits, and—without a doubt—his art.

Through August 22