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The best art exhibitions of 2016

By Eddy Frankel

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Bruce Nauman, Natural Light, Blue Light Room, 1971, Installation View, 2016, © Bruce Nauman 2016, Photo Peter Mallet

YO WHAT'S HAPPENING, my name's Eddy B Frankel and I'm the god damn art editor here at Time Out. That's right, me. Eddy B Frankel: art editor. That means I get to make a list of my favourite shows of the year, and you get the pleasure of looking at it. Here it is, read it and weep.



The Ethics of Dust at Houses of Parliament

Abstract Expressionism at The Royal Academy

Donna Huanca at Zabłudowicz Collection

Anselm Kiefer at White Cube

Jeff Koons at Newport Street Gallery



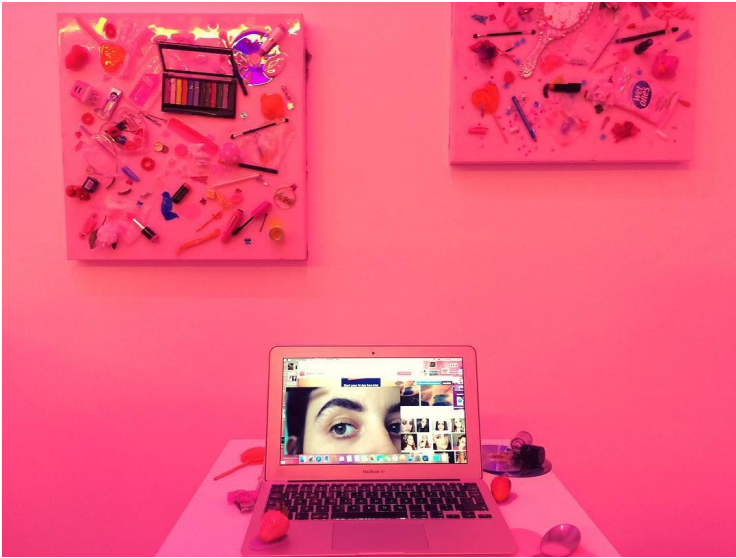
William Eggleston Portraits at the National Portrait Gallery

Animality at Marian Goodman

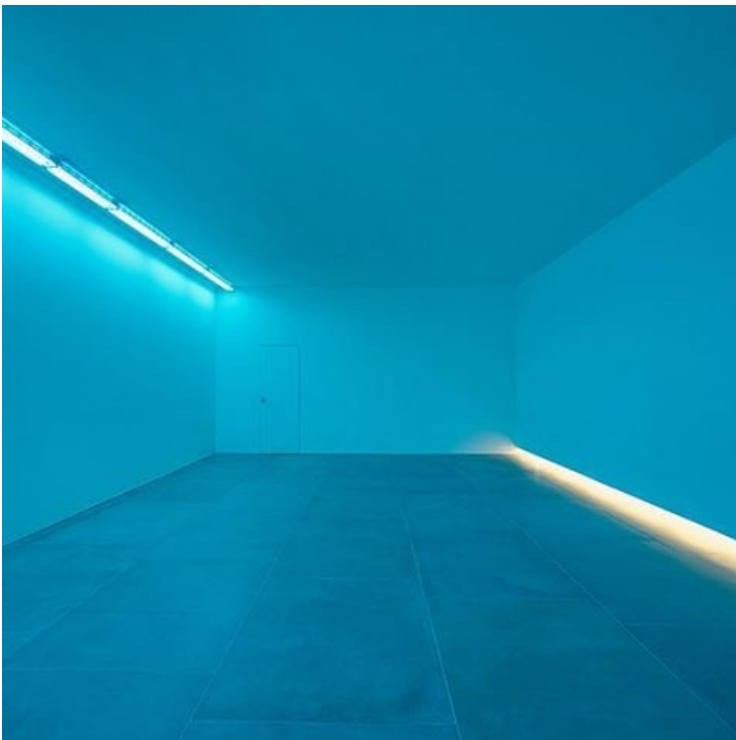
Yayoi Kusama at Victoria Miro

Zaha Hadid at The Serpentine

Molly Soda at Annka Kultys



Bruce Nauman at BlainSouthern



And the worst...

As a rule, we don't really review things that we think are terrible – our job is to recommend great things for you to see, not exercise our own egos by being mean about exhibitions. But some shows are too big to not

cover, or might be something that people have to pay a fair amount of money to see, and then we have an obligation to knock 'em down a peg or two. Here's what I thought were the worst shows of the year. Yeah, loads of people loved the Kjartansson show, my colleague Matt even gave it four stars, but that shit sucked.

South Africa: The Art of a Nation at the British Museum

Does trying to sum up the entire artistic production of a whole country in a five-room exhibition sound like a good idea? No. It doesn't.

Bill Viola at St Paul's Cathedral

Overblown, over-the-top and over-cooked, but still Bill Viola's installation in St Paul's manages to be totally eclipsed by its surroundings. It's enough to turn you into a satanist.

Björk Digital at Somerset House

Take away the already very dated-looking virtual reality technology, and this is just a really boring show of music videos that you could watch on YouTube.

Ragnar Kjartansson at Barbican

The only idea happening here is 'find something to do, and then do it for a really long time', over and over again. Aesthetically and conceptually, this show made my face hurt.