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**5 Standout New York Exhibitions to See This April** By Alina Cohen

Sarah Zapata at Deli Gallery Through April 14th



Sarah Zapata, What Great Conflict I have for you X, 2019. Courtesy of Deli Gallery.



Installation view of Sarah Zapata, "Of This World Rather," at Deli Gallery, Brooklyn, 2019. Courtesy of Deli Gallery.

Sarah Zapata creates some of contemporary art's most colorful, exciting work in fiber and felt. Her Deli Gallery show includes 15 new pieces, in two and three dimensions. New tapestries (hung on the wall and laid on the floor) depict a series of bright faces and patterns behind bars, resulting in a sense of both imprisonment and depth. They offer glimpses of a mystical world that's unavailable to the viewer. In her sculptures, Zapata pairs fiber-wrapped clay pots with thread-bound mannequin feet; the assemblages link craft with fashion. The artist has <u>discussed</u> how her Peruvian heritage and queerness influence her practice: She uses Peruvian weaving techniques and makes her own clothing for drag king performances. Yet the work invites the viewer into its complex politics with its sumptuous, exuberant surfaces.