

Top Art Shows in New York this Week: Diane Arbus to Ajay Kurian

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“Ajay Kurian: Nine Flags” at 47 Canal

On view through November 9

The exhibition features nine wall-mounted sculptures by Brooklyn-based artist Ajay Kurian. The works on view are based on the dimensions of the US flag, but departing from its familiar stars and stripes, these flags feature distorted tessellations similar to the reptilian scales, or eroded dry surface of the earth. “In each work, the surface sheds the prior flag’s skin to reveal a new one below,” the gallery says. “As disfigured, dynamic abstractions, they embody symbolic decay and rebirth, while as pictures they operate as surfaces on which to project political and social metamorphosis.”