

ARTS & LIFESTYLE

28 Exhibitions Worth Travelling For In 2020

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4 JANUARY 2020

From major solo shows by female artists – including Marina Abramović, Yayoi Kusama, Betye Saar and Alice Neel – to explorations of modern masculinity, photographic retrospectives, biennales and triennales, here are our must-see global exhibitions for the year ahead.

For years we've been calling for better representation of women artists; in 2020 museums are coming up to speed. From Yayoi Kusama to Alice Neel, Zanele Muholi to Artemisia Gentileschi, Cao Fei to Marina Abramović, there are worse things you could do than spend the year globetrotting between great exhibitions that are decades (in some cases centuries) overdue.

Modern masculinity is also explored in all its many manifestations in London and Berlin, while New York's Guggenheim museum asks urgent questions about built and natural environments.

Among the new galleries opening in 2020 are the monumental GES-2 in Moscow, designed by Renzo Piano, and the Tadao Ando-designed Bourse de Commerce in Paris. This year, the hands of the international biennale clock stop on Sydney, São Paulo, Helsinki and Marseille (just to mix things up, Yokohama and New Orleans have triennales). Marrakech, meanwhile, sees the start of a new tradition as the first African Capital of Culture.

Alice Neel

From her home studio in Harlem, Alice Neel painted life around her in the mid-20th century: the kids that came knocking on her door, intellectuals, writers, dancers, petty gangsters, dancers, activists, pregnant women. She painted all with great tenderness and humour: her portraits capture a place and time, but also Neel's own drive to connect and engage with everyone in her orbit.

10 June – 24 August, Pompidou Centre, Paris, France