

5 noteworthy art gallery exhibitions to check out during Expo Chicago

Many of the city's dozens of commercial galleries take care to schedule shows during the high-end contemporary art fair to show off their spaces and lure art lovers who are in town for the event. Some highlights include Roger Brown, Youssef Nabil and a "hometown hero."

By Kyle MacMillan | Apr 8, 2026, 12:30pm UTC+2

Jessica Diamond, H el ene Fauquet and Jason Hirata, 'Ethical Managers Make Their Own Rules,' **Bodenrader**, 1620 W. Carroll Ave., through May 2

For the 2 1/2-year-old Near West Side gallery's exhibition during Expo, owner Ethan Kennemer has brought together the work of three related yet still contrasting conceptual artists from different generations.

He first settled on the language-based work of Diamond, the best known of the three. She emerged in the 1980s in New York's downtown art scene and was featured in a long-running solo exhibition that ended in 2025 at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C. Joining her will be Fauquet, a French artist who had her first solo show in the United States in 2024, and Jason Hirata, who explores the nature of authorship in his work.

"I think the show gets at a core concern that I'm always thinking about as gallery owner, which is how exhibitions function within themselves and how artists approach exhibition-making, which I think is always interesting and something that is sometimes taken for granted or overlooked," Kennemer said.



"Ether," 2024, by H el ene Fauquet | Courtesy of Bodenrader, Chicago