

WHEN ART TAKES OVER

An essential primer on London's hottest GALLERIES, gathering spots, LOOKS and emerging PAINTERS for the busy SEASON ahead

New galleries to visit

This October, in a quiet mews in Fitzrovia, a former 1940s workshop will reopen as this year's most exciting commercial art space, **Antesala**. A new London home for Latin American art, it is a fitting building for what its founder, Brazilian-born, London-living collector Flavia Nespatti, promises of Antesala. Meaning "anteroom" ("From an architectural point of view, it's like the intimate space before a more grand space of gathering"), it is to be a place of "informality and exchange," she tells *Vogue*. "Culturally speaking, we are very much a region that welcomes community. There's always a space for somebody else." Its inaugural exhibition, the group show *Assembly Lines*, brought together by Nespatti and senior director Laura González, will span historical and contemporary art, focusing on a "conceptual approach to drawing". It is very much a statement of intent: "The one objective that we have in our mind is to resist the expected," says Nespatti. "I've had people say, 'Oh, I can't wait to see more colour,' or, 'Can't wait to see more indigenous artists,' which is all part of what we have in Latin America, but there is a lot more to it." Now is the time: curators, she says "are starting to look somewhere else, and that somewhere else is Latin America".

Meanwhile, hidden on the first floor of a former silversmith's atelier on Fleet Street is newly opened eponymous gallery **Ashley Saville**. Focusing on London-based artists (most recently, the solo shows of emerging talents Tess Tomassini and Anna Curzon Price, as well as more established names such as Jason Shulman) the space, says Saville, "has the length and height to show giant paintings and sculpture, while also allowing small objects and images to sing". Exhibitions aside, it also runs a project called Books in Residence, inviting independent publishers to curate a library in the space.

Continue over the river and, moments from Tate Modern, you'll find a punchy new cultural venue vying for your attention: **Hypha Gallery South Bank**. Run by Hypha Studios, which transforms disused buildings into gallery and studio spaces, this new offering will be its biggest yet, turning an old office block into 800sq m of gallery space – with all exhibitions free to visit too. OLIVIA MARKS

