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"What's the Best Work of Art you Saw This Summer," Artnet, August, 2017

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What's the Best Work of Art You Saw This Summer? 18 (More) Well-Traveled Experts Weigh In



Installation shot of Joan Jonas's "what is found in the windowless house is true" (2017). Photo: ©the artist, courtesy Gavin Brown's enterprise, New York.

Some people spend the summer swimming at the beach or reading at a lakeside cabin. Workaholic members of the art world, however, seem to spend their summers doing what they always do: looking at art. This year's calendar was particularly jam-packed, with documenta 14, the Venice Biennale, and the Skulptur Projekte Münster coinciding for the first time in a decade.

We asked curators, museum directors, auction house executives, artists, and others to pick the best work of art they saw this summer—and tell us why they can't get it out of their heads. The answers will take you from a picturesque harbor in Le Havre to a remote island in Japan.

This is the second in a two-part series. See the first round of responses here.

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Shirin Neshat, artist and filmmaker

Joan Jonas had the most powerful exhibition, "what is found in the windowless house is true" at Gavin Brown's enterprise in Harlem. I have known Joan for a long time, and I was really dumbfounded by how, the older she gets, the more fresh, the more profound her work becomes. She reminded me of Louise Bourgeois. I was really blown away by her videos in this exhibition—it was a very profound experience. She's such an inspiration.