GLADSTONE GALLERY

B. David Zarley, "The Best Exhibitions in Chicago This Weekend," *Frieze*, September 18, 2019



Critics' Guides /

The Best Exhibitions in Chicago This Weekend

BY B. DAVID ZARLEY 18 SEP 2019

Ahead of the openings of EXPO Chicago and the 2019 Chicago Architecture Biennial, a guide to the most moving, relevant and astonishing shows around town



LaToya Ruby Frazier, Kesha Scales hugging Beverly Williams in her living room (22 years in at GM Lordstown Assembly, pressroom), Youngstown OH, from 'The Last Cruze', 2019. Courtesy: the artist and Gavin Brown's Enterprise, New York / Rome

LaToya Ruby Frazier, 'The Last Cruze' Renaissance Society <https://frieze.com/event/latoya-ruby-frazier-1> 14 September – 1 December

LaToya Ruby Frazier's haunting photographs of autoworkers in Lordstown, Ohio – composed of spectral, shadowy greys – put a human face on late capitalism. The small town's engine was a GM plant that produced the Chevy Cruze, and despite the company's promise to continue manufacturing that car until 2021, the factory has been 'unallocated', excised from GM and left in uncertainty. Frazier's images, set against a backdrop of tense union negotiations, are pathos-laden portraits of the workers marginalized by their factory town's precarious dependency on its multinational patron.