



## The Top Ten Shows in the UK and Ireland in 2023

From a posthumous Martin Wong retrospective in Camden to Matthew Arthur Williams's sensitive debut in Dundee



Mike Silva, *Curtain*, 2023, oil on linen, 106.7 × 76.2 cm. Courtesy: the artist and The Approach, London

*It has been a big year for the UK art scene, marked by the opening of countless new commercial gallery spaces, the staging of several monumental monographic shows and the launch of a number of fledgling editorial platforms. Here, I have noted my favourite shows – from a special, one-room painting exhibition in Glasgow to a demanding film survey in London. In no order:*

### **Mike Silva**

#### **The Approach, London**

Whispering curtains, kitchen cabinets and parched succulents populate the universe of Mike Silva. His hazy sepia and cloudy green oil-on-linen paintings of nostalgic interiors are obfuscations of photographic

memories. Finn Blythe visited 'New Paintings' at The Approach in July: 'By carefully balancing light and dark, interior and exterior, past and present, Silva attempts to reconcile photography with memory and, ultimately, transience with loss.'

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## SEAN BURNS

Sean Burns is an artist, writer and *frieze* assistant editor based in London, UK. His new book on death in art is out now from Tate Publishing.

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