

## At the Art Openings: Decadence, Decay and Dogs

Hundreds of galleries opened their doors this weekend — and we have pictures!

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By [Soterios Johnson](#), [Carolina A. Miranda](#)

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The arts season got off to a rip-roaring start this past week as the city's roughly 600 galleries opened their doors to a stampede of eager viewers. It was cheek-to-jowl in many galleries, especially on Friday at [Gagosian](#), where it was stiletto-to-stiletto for Dan Colen's sprawling show of tipped-over-motorcycles and bubble-gum paintings.

If you can only make it to one of the hundreds of new exhibits in town, be sure to hit Chris Verene's show at [Postmasters Gallery](#) on 19th Street. I was bowled over by the photographs of his family, which are disarming for their frank and brutal honesty. Other must-sees include Karl Wirsum's explosive cartoon-style drawings from the '60s at [Derek Eller](#), and the abstract/conceptual group show at [Friedrich Petzel](#) — which includes abstract ink jet paintings, floating thought bubbles and Allan McCollum's wall of plaster art casts.

This week, get ready for Round 2: big openings coming up at [David Zwirner Gallery](#) on 19th Street and solo shows by Suzan Frecon and Al Taylor. Bonus: An organic ice cream truck has started parking on 19th at the end of the High Line — and their vanilla soft serve is all kinds of yum.

Best in Show: At Postmasters Gallery, on 19th Street, Chris Verene's unflinching portraits of his family are an absolute must-see. Above, 'Lexus,' an image from 2005. ([Chris Verene and Postmasters Gallery](#))



Carolina A. Miranda

If there's one gallery that consistently delivers when it comes to decadence, it's [Gagosian](#). This weekend opened with a show by Dan Colen that featured a row of tipped-over motorcycles.

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