

Derosia

Artspace, November 17, 2018

Artspace

THE HOT LIST

On View Now: 9 Not-to-Miss Artworks in Downtown NYC

By Artspace Editors

NOV. 17, 2018



JASON BENSON
Enter the green, 2018

In *Enter the green*, an upside-down mouse suspended from a curled red tail stabs itself with a sword. This image (a crest for masochists?) has been painted on square tiles smuggled inside a mosaic. An industrially-produced metal hook is slipped into the top right corner. Enter the green is part of a larger mosaics show currently on view at Bodega. Benson mishmashes internet-era imagery with figures that could have been pulled from an illuminated medieval manuscript. *Involuntary Self-Immolation* (2018) features buff demons, a sun that wouldn't be out of place on a Sublime album, and small stock-image photographs of nature. In the press release, Benson's wife, Erin Jane Nelson, points out that mosaics appear in places of religious worship, but are also a home craft; Benson's pieces seek to hold both of these contexts at once. "From the vastness of fables through time and cultures to the smallness of the shards of failed ceramics we have made together, between the tenderness of love and sex and the inconceivable backdrop of environmental doom is where you will find the works in this exhibition."