

# Art in America



Jason Benson, *Shock Portal*, 2018, mosaic, pastel, and resin on wood panel, 40 x 30 inches. Courtesy of the artist and Bodega, New York.

## What to see in New York: Curator Phillip March Jones on shows up now

Jason Benson's work at Bodega is familiar for the same reasons. Benson makes wall pieces, filled with images of fantastical beings, which combine painting and mosaic. Looking at them, I couldn't help but think of vernacular artists who have also worked with mosaic—Simon Rodia in Los Angeles, Isaiah Zagar in Philadelphia, and Raymond Isadore in France, among them. I found the work discomfoting, but I ended up looking at it for a long time.