

Derosia

Zoë Hopkins, Frieze, September 8, 2023

FRIEZE

Five Shows to See in New York During Armory Week



Covey Gong, *NW298*, 2023, brass, tin, copper, assorted fibers, 193 × 28 × 17 cm. Courtesy: the artist and Derosia, New York

Covey Gong

Derosia

7 September – 28 October

Covey Gong's artworks are configured with an astonishing care for fragile things: thin wires and rods, brittle netting and cloth, feathers and fibres. There is no denying the delight that the artist takes in the life of his materials. In 'Intercontinental', the artist's latest solo exhibition at Derosia, these tenuous objects are made into four large sculptures of apparently weightless intricacy: gorgeous entanglements of found and reclaimed matter that seem to float from the gallery's walls and ceilings.

United under the rubric 'garments' – a signifier that the artist deploys to usher his sculptures into proximity with the adorned body – the works are potential containers for fleshy inhabitants. And, while the objects themselves are not readily wearable, there is something inviting in thinking of them as ornaments that have been assembled out of a will to self-fashion. Perhaps we might all live in the garments that Gong's sculptures allude to, finding a shared cloak inside this constellation of delicate things.