FRIEZE

The Top Ten Shows in the UK and Ireland in 2024

From a characteristically tongue-in-cheek Yoko Ono exhibition to a group show on the 'Imaginary Institution of India'

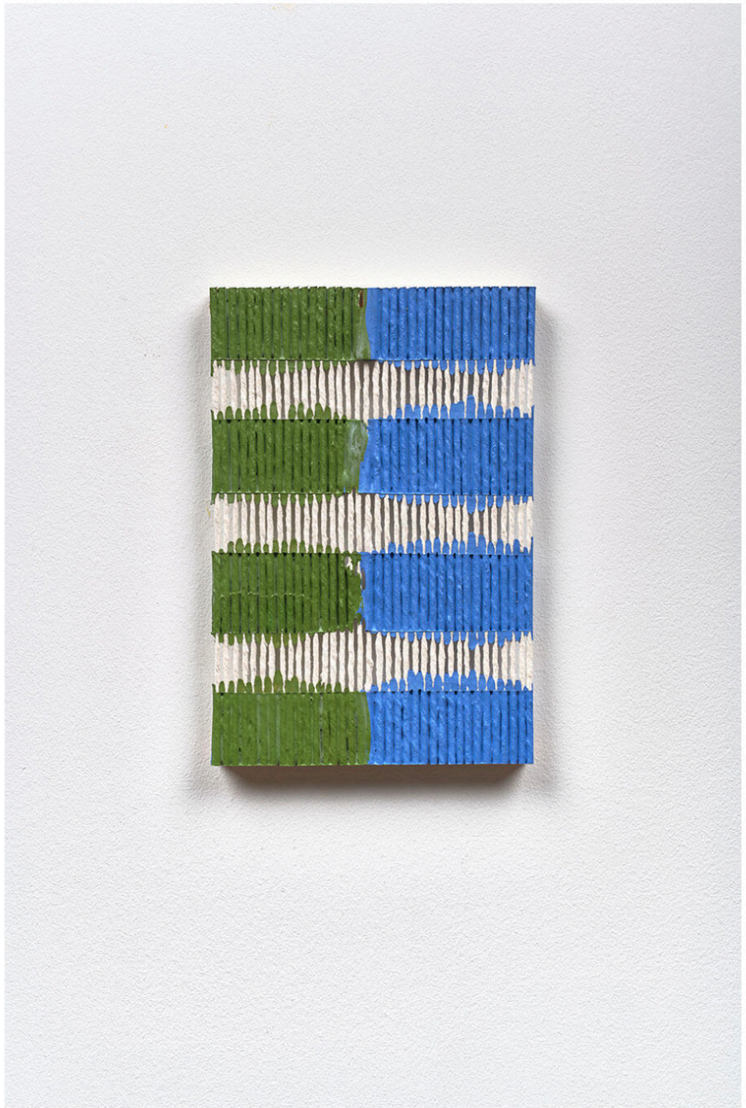


BY **LOU SELFRIDGE** IN **CRITIC'S GUIDES** | 16 DEC 24

This was a particularly strong year for painting, with major artists – Barbara Walker, Marlene Dumas, Tracey Emin – showing some of their finest works. Other shows challenged the ways we engage with art in galleries: Yoko Ono's playfully participative art was the subject of a major retrospective at Tate Modern, whilst both Glenn Ligon and Pio Abad created works responding to historic collections at museums in Cambridge and Oxford, respectively. In no particular order, here are some of the standout shows from 2024.

It was still winter when I visited Brandon Logan's 'Dog Rose' at Ingleby Gallery in Edinburgh. Having spent too much time looking at flaccid, half-assed conceptual art in various galleries across Scotland, I was in search of something to dig my teeth into. Logan's playful minimalism restored my excitement about how delicate and invigorating art can be, with an impressive display of more than 40 weavings, in which warps of exposed string are bound together with bands of acrylic paint. As I wrote at the time, 'These paintings are a meaningful addition to minimalist vernacular, seemingly pulled off with a nod and a wink.' This show announced a new talent worth watching, with an elegant precision underpinning his formally innovative paintings.

Brandon Logan / Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh



Brandon Logan, *Kiss 2*, 2022, acrylic and string, 20 × 13 cm. Courtesy: the artist and Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh; photograph: John McKenzie