

The Best London Shows to See Post Frieze Week

From Rhea Dillon's reflections on labour to the best of Black British fashion, Frieze New Writers have selected the top shows to see this season



Rhea Dillon, 'Nonbody Nonthing No Thing', 2021, exhibition view. Courtesy: the artist and V.O Curations, London

Rhea Dillon

V.O Curations

15 October – 11 November

Do you know who cleans the seats on London buses? Ruminating on the erasure of Black British labour, Rhea Dillon fastidiously weaves together painting, sculpture and found objects in her debut solo exhibition, at V.O Curations. Playing with a material tension between durability and fragility, Dillon references members of her British-Jamaican family who have worked for Transport for London. She covers bus seats in ghostly translucent plastic and transforms framed seat backings into fragmented manuscripts. A glass heirloom passed down by her grandmother morphs into hands of service when precariously balanced on a broken breeze block, referencing the makeshift architecture of many Jamaican homes. Affecting, abstracted and, at times, mystical, Dillon's family history becomes a tribute to the ignored and unseen manual work of the Windrush Generation. In light of the dire lack of post-Brexit lorry drivers, the work is a topical reminder of Britain's unacknowledged reliance on immigrant labour. Dillon's consideration of Black Britishness lingers far beyond the bus ride home.

– *Donna Marcus Duke*