Art in America

The Lookout: A Weekly Guide to Shows You Won't Want to Miss
by aia staff 01/24/13

With an ever-growing number of galleries scattered around New York, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. Where to begin? Here at A.i.A., we are always on the hunt for thought- provoking, clever and memorable shows that stand out in a crowded field. Below is a selection of current shows our team of editors can't stop talking about.

This week we check out a two-gallery show of Daniel Buren's stripe paintings from the past 40+ years at Bortolami and Petzel, Natasza Niedziolka's free-form embroideries at Horton and **Stephen Pusey**'s latest abstract paintings at Guided by Invoices.

Daniel Buren at Petzel and Bortolami, both through Feb. 16
Daniel Buren's colorful stripes almost singlehandedly kept painting relevant within the highest echelon of the high-brow Conceptualist movement of the 1960s and '70s. Some viewers might see these works simply as expensive wallpaper. Admirably changing with the times, Buren has introduced at Bortolami an arresting series of blue-and-white-striped compositions lined with fiber-optic strands.

Natasza Niedziolka at Horton, through Feb. 3
Berlin-based Natasza Niedziolka's textile drawings made of thread on canvas are mostly abstract, though after lingering in Horton's front room, many of the stacked half-circles start to look like large ships teetering on the surface of a calm sea. Some of the more subtle embroideries on stretched cotton are "framed" with a colorful zigzag border.

Stephen Pusey at Guided by Invoices, through Feb. 9
The London-born, St. Martins-educated artist was once a painter of socially conscious murals in working-class neighborhoods. But after his move to the U.S. in 1986, he became increasingly involved with both digital media and acrylic-on-canvas gestural abstraction. All his concerns come together, dynamically, in these recent paintings whose swirling, squiggling multicolor lines evoke—in perspective depth—genetics, cosmology, information networks and personal signature.