

CRITICS' PICK

Rococo Remastered

**WHEN:** January 3 to February 2**WHERE:** Hillyer Art Space (</location/hillyer-art-space>)**CALL:** (202) 338-0325 (</location/hillyer-art-space>)**COST:** Free

Noel Kassewitz produces art that grapples with climate change, reflecting both her birthplace—Miami, a city at risk from rising sea levels—and her current home of Washington, D.C., where environmental policy is, or isn't, made. In *Rococo Remastered*, her exhibit at IA&A Hillyer, Kassewitz cleverly melds her main tropes by creating art that floats, in the expectation that buoyancy will eventually be necessary if art is to survive a too warm world. Kassewitz accomplishes this by embedding her painted canvases with inflatable plastic devices; the exhibit includes both the original artworks and photographic documentation that they passed their swim test. Kassewitz also includes photographic proof of her own “performative float” down the Potomac River in 2018. The plastic elements embedded in Kassewitz’s canvases are more dime-store than Claes Oldenburg, but the pink and orange hues that infuse her photographs and mixed-media works are enchanting, a note that seemingly undercuts the power of her serious themes. *The exhibition is on view to Feb. 2 at IA&A Hillyer, 9 Hillyer Court NW. Free. (202) 338-0325. athillyer.org. —Louis Jacobson*