

## 21 Art Exhibitions to View in NYC This Weekend

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A glazed stoneware vessel by Kamoda Shoji, on display at Joan B. Mirviss as part of Asia Week.

Richard Goodbody

*Our guide to new art shows — and some that will be closing soon.*

**‘TARSILA DO AMARAL: INVENTING MODERN ART IN BRAZIL’** at the Museum of Modern Art (through June 3). The subtitle is no overstatement: In the early 1920s, first in Paris and then back home in São Paulo, Brazil, this painter really did lay the groundwork for the coming of modernism in Latin America’s most populous nation. Tired of the European pretenders in Brazil’s art academies, Tarsila (who was always called by her first name) began to intermingle Western, African and indigenous motifs into flowing, biomorphic paintings, and to theorize a new national culture fueled by the principle of antropofagia, or “cannibalism.” Along with spare, assured

drawings of Rio and the Brazilian countryside, [this belated but very welcome show](#) assembles Tarsila’s three most important paintings, including the classic “Abaporu” (1928): a semi-human nude with a spindly nose and a comically swollen foot. (Jason Farago)

212-708-9400, [moma.org](http://moma.org)

**ASIA WEEK** at various locations (through March 24). The offerings at this annual event, which features 45 free public exhibitions, are as diverse and intriguing as the continent it represents. On view [across Manhattan](#), as well as from Staten Island to New Haven, the work ranges from religious statuary to textiles, prints and paintings. The collection of ceramics by the excellent 20th-century potter Kamoda Shoji at Joan B. Mirviss is a notable highlight. An added bonus: The pieces have never been shown outside of Japan. (Peter Libbey)

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