

TEMPLON



OMAR BA

GALERIE MAGAZINE, October 6, 2025

8 Must-See Solo Gallery Shows in October

From Shara Hughes's psychologically charged large landscape paintings at David Kordansky Gallery to Yukimasa Ida's wildly gestural abstract portraits at Mariane Ibrahim

BY PAUL LASTER



Omar Ba, *Sous l'écorce du temps - Singer*, (2025).

3. Omar Ba | Templon, New York

One of today's leading contemporary African artists, Omar Ba was honored with the opening exhibition when Templon launched its New York outpost in 2022. Back then, the Senegalese artist was splitting his time between Dakar, Geneva, New York, Brussels, and Paris, but his new body of paintings, which captures family and friends from photos of the past and present, has mostly been created at his studio in New York. Depicting workers, farmers, nurses, and singers, the paintings present everyday people from his homeland and diaspora who stand out with their charismatic personalities, stylish clothing, and sense of dignity and achievement. Using various mark-making techniques, the skilled painter expertly integrates his subjects into naturally patterned backgrounds, blending abstraction with figuration to create a striking style of portraiture where his figures seamlessly merge with their blooming environments.