

LA WEEKLY

5 ART SHOWS TO SEE IN L.A. THIS WEEK



William T. Wiley's *Pre-Tsunami Abstraction with Migraines* (2011); Credit: Courtesy of the artist and Parker Gallery

Black balling

The year Martin Luther King Jr. died, artist William T. Wiley made his sculpture *Monument to Black Ball Violence*, in which a ball of black electrical tape rested on a waist-high wooden stool. A log-shaped box tucked between the stool legs held more tape so that viewers could add to the ball, which got bigger and bigger as 1968 became 1969. Currently, *Monument*, crowned with a golden halo, sits at the center of Parker Gallery's upstairs exhibition space, the regal protest piece flanked by more recent work by Wiley. The 2011 painting *Pre-Tsunami Abstraction With Migraines* mostly consists of a black and white tangle of undulating lines and ghostly shapes. A ram's head rises out of smoky waves and beady white eyes gaze out from a black Gumby-shaped body. Barely perceptible thin, colored webs and constellations float above the heavier imagery, as if some idealistic mathematician has tried to impose order on a sea of unknowns. Uncertainty and chaos subsume these patterns in the end, but they're still a hopeful presence. 2441 Glendower Ave., Los Feliz; through Jan. 20. (213) 631-1343, parkergallery.com.

Catherine Wagley, "5 ART SHOWS TO SEE IN L.A. THIS WEEK." *LA Weekly* (December 6, 2017), accessed online.