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David Ebony's Top 10 New York Gallery Shows for November

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Jeffrey Gibson, *Speak to Me in Your Way So I Can Hear You*, 2015.
Photo: Courtesy Marc Straus Gallery.

6. Jeffrey Gibson at Marc Straus, through December 13.

Jeffrey Gibson's exploration of his Native American heritage in his art has led him to a diverse range of formal expression. He has established over the past several years a consistently engaging visual vocabulary that encompasses painting, sculpture, installation, video, and performance. This show is an exciting overview of the artist's recent endeavors; it includes familiar works, such as several of the elaborately beaded Everlast punching bag pieces, often with text, that suggest an idiosyncratic meditation on violence, or its antithesis, peace.

Among the finest works on view are hard-edge monochrome paintings on rawhide, such as *Undercover* (2015), with its translucent layering of glowing green bands,

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and *Ebb and Flow* (2015), whose striated composition of black and sepia rectangles has an almost Op art feel. Most haunting of all are the two large sculptures, including *Speak to Me in Your Way So I Can Hear You* (2015), made of driftwood logs adorned with countless strands of glass beads, and brilliantly colored strips of fabric, and fringe. Topped by an abstracted head in glazed ceramic, this uncanny personage conveys a ritual significance, like a shaman figure, at once arcane and prescient.

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