

June 17, 2020

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See This Theresa Chromati's Vivid Prints at the Delaware Contemporary



From left: Theresa Chromati's "Gathered a Bunch of Scrotum Flowers and Now I Am on My Way (She's Getting There Isn't She)" (2020) and "Where Will the Pieces Land? (Reaching for a Scrotum Flower)" (2020) at the Delaware Contemporary in Wilmington, Del. Courtesy of the artist and Kravets Webby Gallery

By Rachel May

T Contributor

A drive-through exhibition of the New York-based artist Theresa Chromati's vivid banners at the Delaware Contemporary in Wilmington should give people new hope for acceptable, more visceral ways of socially distanced art viewing. When the interior portion of Chromati's show, "Stepping Out to Step In," was postponed in March because of the pandemic, she and the Delaware Contemporary team came up with an outdoor component: three 30-foot-tall digital prints that now hang on the outside of the museum and that all show a woman with piercing eyes and elongated, curling feet and fingers. The figure carries Chromati's signature scrotum-like flowers and, the artist says, is in "various energies and states of being," as illustrated by "jagged areas that feel as though they're ripping into the conversation." For the accompanying soundscape, which viewers can listen to using a QR code, Chromati collaborated with the Baltimore pop and electronic artist Pangelica. While the music's darker elements — a blurred voice, a scream — seem to capture the bewilderment surrounding our present moment, Chromati's bold colors and strong lines are a vivid reminder that we can find strength in challenging times. "A lot of the work is about stepping out of yourself to step within yourself," says Chromati. "Or looking backwards to see where you come from to propel you forward." The outdoor exhibition opened June 5 and closes Nov. 30. The interior portion, dedicated to eight of Chromati's paintings, is scheduled to open Sept. 11 and remain on view through Jan. 3, 2021, at the Delaware Contemporary, 200 South Madison Street, Wilmington, Del., decontemporary.org.