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## T The New York Times Style Magazine

The T List: Five Things We Recommend Doing This Week. Natalia Torija Nieto. April 29, 2021. The New York Times Style Magazine. Online. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/29/t-magazine/kenny-rivero-yotam-ottolenghi.html>

### ROBERT JANITZ



*The artist Robert Janitz's "La Garderobe du Placard" (2021) hangs on the wall of the dining room at Casa Gilardi in Mexico City. At the edge of the pool is his work "Explanada Rosa" (2021), comprising custom-made pigmented cement tiles*

The buildings and gardens that the Mexican architect Luis Barragán realized in the second half of his career, from the 1940s to the late '70s, have in common a monastic feel that tends to inspire a contemplative state in a visitor. When the German artist Robert Janitz first began to engage with Barragán's designs three years ago, he responded, in particular, to a sense of "dematerialization of space into colored light," he recalls. It is fitting, then, that 10 of his own vibrant works are currently on view at Casa Gilardi — the final house that Barragán completed, in 1978, in the San Miguel Chapultepec neighborhood of Mexico City — for the show "Best of All Worlds," curated by Gianni Jetzer.

Janitz's polychrome canvases, with broad brush and squeegee marks

made of oil, flour and wax, as well as his first work on ceramic tile and a minimalist concrete fuchsia tile composition — arranged beside the home's aquamarine indoor pool — demonstrate his own tendency for introspection (as a graduate student in Germany, he specialized in Indology and comparative religion and subsequently dedicated 10 years to meditation before pursuing painting). Set against the home's luminous white, cobalt and lemon yellow walls, the pieces have a mesmerizing effect. "This is not an eye-level conversation," Janitz says of how his work interacts with the architect's. "I come in as a devotee." He did include one note of defiance, though. While most of the pieces in the exhibition are as bright as the house itself, Jetzer and Janitz chose to hang "Álgebra Sin Color" (2021), a 6½-foot-by-5-foot canvas in black and white, on a first-floor terrace. "This one is anti-Chucho Reyes," says Janitz with a laugh, alluding to Barragán's frequent collaborator and master of color. "Best of All Worlds" is on view through May 8 at Casa Gilardi, Calle Gral. Antonio, León 82, San Miguel Chapultepec, Mexico