

# Frieze

## The Best Shows in New York During Armory Week

Evan Moffitt, March 04, 2020

Jonathan Berger  
Participant Inc.  
23 February – 5 April

I'll confess: I'm not fond of exhibitions that require a lot of reading, at least not in the gallery. Although 'An Introduction to Nameless Love,' Jonathan Berger's show at Participant Inc., features a lot of text – 33,000 letters to be precise, each cut and hand-hammered individually from tin – it's like a book I'd love to live inside. Glimmering quotes from interviews with a wide range of subjects – from Shaker Brother Arnold Hadd to turtle conservationist Richard Ogust – are mounted on wire grids so fine that they merge diaphanously with one another. A floor of cubed charcoal briquettes crackles underfoot. As the show's title suggests, the words here are all about kinds of love that aren't strictly romantic: for instance, our passion for animals or our devotion to god. Musings by designers Charles and Ray Eames form a celestial orb in the back of the gallery and unfurl like ribbons on the floor around it. Bring your glasses and plan to stay awhile.



Jonathan Berger, *An Introduction to Nameless Love*, 2019, installation detail. Courtesy: the artist and Participant Inc, New York; photograph: Mark Waldhauser