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Holland Cotter
Raven Chacon: *A Worm's Eye
View From a Bird's Beak*
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Best Art of 2024

This was a year whose high points included Joan Jonas's luminous survey, the extravaganza "PST ART," and the 24-karat beauty of a show "Siena: The Rise of Painting, 1300-1350."

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Joan Jonas in her studio with her dog Sappho, New York, 1972. Dogs have been featured prominently in her work. Babette Mangolte, via The Museum of Modern Art New York



By **Holland Cotter**

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Raven Chacon

In a Whitney Biennial four years ago, Raven Chacon, a Pulitzer-winning Navajo composer and artist, made a haunting impression with a sound piece called “Silent Choir (Standing Rock),” an aural recording of a voiceless Native American protest. A 2024 survey of his work, “A Worm’s Eye View From a Bird’s Beak,” at Swiss Institute in Manhattan encompassing videos, a pictographic mural and compositions scored for wind, voice and gunshots expanded our sense of his range. Like the work of John Cage and Yoko Ono, who influenced him, his is art for ear, eye and mind. (*Read our [review of the show.](#)*)