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Culture

Spring Arts Preview: Top 10 Art Exhibitions

By **Daniel D'Addario**

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Robert Mapplethorpe, "50 Americans"

Sean Kelly Gallery, opens May 6

Don't expect a culture war to erupt over this show at Sean Kelly Gallery, which represents the Mapplethorpe estate. The artworks on view here were selected by a broad swath of Americans, one from each state. The portrait of a black-jacketed youth that Sean Kelly Gallery uses to advertise the show bears, though, all the best of Mapplethorpe's hallmarks: a striking contrast between black and white, an emphasis on slightly dangerous beauty. Perhaps the old Republican guard should be on notice, just in case.