

SEANKELLY

Herbert, Martin. "Martin Herbert's pick of shows this September," *ArtReview*, September 2017.

ArtReview

Martin Herbert's pick of shows this September



Iran do Espírito Santo, *Thread and Nut 2*, 2016, stainless steel, 70 × 35 × 40 cm. © the artist. Courtesy Sean Kelly, New York

Iran do Espírito Santo, Sean Kelly, New York, 8 September – 21 October

Iran do Espírito Santo also makes meticulously honed, near-abstract sculptures that echo the real. But the Brazilian's artworks, manifesting on all kinds of scales, are less internally troubled than they are a kind of consoling balm, an honouring of the everyday that sands off the details and leaves Platonic ideals. A numbered series of marble works from 2011–12, all entitled *Globe*, look a bit like sealed bowls, or cakes on stands, or objects that a Buddhist monk might meditate in front of. A series from 2014 depicts dropper bottles, in monochromatic coloured glass or brushed steel, that are unopenable and hieratic, as if the act of, say, applying eyedrops had been elevated to an empyrean realm. A flat-ended lightbulb, similarly translated into stainless steel, becomes a gnomonic, gorgeously still thing; while in a series of larger in situ painting interventions like *Switch* (2012), Espírito Santo creates the illusion of a soft, chasmal rectangular indent filling an expanse of grey, paired with a glowing white concavity. Go (to Sean Kelly, specifically) and feel a high-toned, smartly prepared becalming, if only temporarily.