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'The Leftovers' at Simon Lee Gallery, New York

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Simon Lee Gallery New York is presenting "The Leftovers", a group exhibition that explores the ideas of shelter that is on view through June 10, 2017.

The exhibition is organized by Franklin Melendez and Romain Dauriac. Planning is considered the best precaution and true to form the 1% are shoring up their goods with designer doomsday dugouts. It's true—CNN reported it and Vivos xPoint, a real estate company specializing in such wares, admits that demand is on the rise. Of course, the Spartan concrete walls and canned goods of yore have been replaced by LED-powered panoramic views, underground pools and built-in custom finishes. Upon request, however, certain utilitarian details can be retained or added for dramatic effect. Examples are already thriving above ground with once-secret fallout shelters that have been converted into private homes, luxury condos, art gallery complexes and more. It is hard to imagine living in this stasis—but one supposes that anxious anticipation is a small price to pay for airtight comfort. Then again, despite these upgrades, the real pickle remains what else to bring along? Among the cushions and the rations, the placeholders and relics, what surplus objects will be tethered and preserved to these polished capsules? Will their value outlive their function? And how will they emerge and take in the view of a landscape rewritten in ways both strange and unforetold.



Jeffrey Joyal, *TOM 9*, 2015. Taxidermy turkey head, lightbulb, mirrored paint, and electrical components 49.9 x 15.2 cm (16 1/2 x 6 in.) Courtesy: Simon Lee Gallery, New York