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## An Artist's Photographic Arrangements, on View in New York's Chinatown



Four iterations of rumpled linens appear in Gonzalo Reyes Rodriguez's "Unmade Beds" (2024). © Gonzalo Reyes Rodriguez, courtesy of David Peter Francis Gallery, New York

By Jameson Montgomery

The Mexican-born, Vancouver-based artist Gonzalo Reyes Rodriguez is preparing to mount "Survey," his first solo exhibition in New York, on April 26 at David Peter Francis, a Chinatown gallery that opened in March. The show features a new suite of giclée prints in which Rodriguez juxtaposes found photography with some of his own iPhone snaps, making various compositions atop grids, arcs and zigzagging lines that resemble bar graphs, invoking a sense of scientific or taxonomic connection between images that are, in fact, unrelated. The body of work was born from the frustration Rodriguez experienced while living and teaching in Chicago: When working on a video piece that required extensive archival research, the artist found some institutions' regulations around photo usage to be creatively stifling. As he puts it, "The images had to be tied down to a specific narrative that the archive was trying to uphold, and there was no space in there for art." Though Rodriguez still makes use of established archives, he more regularly sources imagery from encyclopedias, eBay and, every now and then, the sidewalk. ("The ones I've found on the street are surprisingly good," he says.) In "Sleeping Boys I" (2024), Rodriguez places an image of a person sound asleep and awash in sunlight across from a photo of a slumberer carved in stone, while "Unmade Beds" (2024) presents multiple views of crumpled sheets and lumpy pillows (one image is, in fact, a photo of a photo of a photo). "Survey" is on view from April 26 to June 1, [davidpeterfrancis.com](http://davidpeterfrancis.com).