

"Give Davina Semo's new bell show a ring"

By Tony Bravo

January 24, 2025



Davina Semo's "A Serious Celebration," 2025. On view at Jessica Silverman. Photo: Phillip Maisel

Davina Semo's new sculpture show, "A Serious Celebration," really puts a ring on it. As in ding-a-ling.

The Los Angeles artist's focus is the hanging bronze bell, an object that has been her oeuvre since 2017. Bells can evoke many things: the call to prayer, the marking of time, the sounds of rejoicing. Semo's sculptures come in all varieties, from the vividly colored and the unusually shaped to the more traditional.

Walking through the Jessica Silverman gallery, the hanging presentation has a meditative quality as you weave through the bells like a labyrinth. It's easy to discover new details in each bell on return visits.

The exhibition also features Semo's large wall works. "Magic Mirror" consists of eight bronze panels punctuated with patinated circles. Our own distorted images, visible in the work, are meant to encourage us to "reflect on reflections and consider our patterns of looking," according to the gallery.

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