Ahead of Zurich Art Weekend, the pick of the shows to see in the city
Tony Feher

Plymouth Rock <https://frieze.com/event/tony-feher-0>
7 June – 22 July 2019

Tony Feher’s show at Plymouth Rock is a welcome tonic. Feher lived and worked in New York from the 1980s till his death of AIDS-related illness in 2016 and is surprisingly little-known in Europe. This spare show comprises just four pieces, each made from cheap, commonplace materials, elevated through their graceful arrangements and carefully-chosen titles. Take (Pollywog), (2007), a tangle of blue and white plastic strapping tied together and held aloft like a chandelier. The unfamiliar name means tadpole but is also slang for a sailor who has not yet crossed the equator, transforming what is usually a frustrating, abrasive material into a pregnant cloud of possibilities, touching on ideas of fresh-faced inexperience and the figure of the sailor in gay iconography.

Tony Feher, Nile Spiral, 2001, 222 plastic bottle caps, dimension variable. Courtesy: the artist and Plymouth Rock, Zurich