

Katy Martin's Solo Exhibition

Movement Scores

May 7 - May 30, 2021

About the exhibition

Artist Katy Martin paints on her skin, which she then photographs and prints on cotton rag paper. She also makes large-scale paintings with her body, by dipping her torso into liquid paint and rubbing it down the side of the canvas. This exhibition features the artist's recent photographs and paintings plus a live performance where she creates a new painting.

All of Katy's art explores painting as a gesture. Her new work homes in on the choreography that implies. For the large paintings, she moves in repeating patterns across the canvas. The body imprints are like brush strokes but they are also a trace, a remnant of the artist in that time and place.

Painting her own body and performing for the camera and audience builds on the logic of action painting. It also makes literal the notion of presence in the marks. What emerges is a paradox of the art-making process, where you're subject and object, but it's not about you. Rather, it's a process of finding and losing. Presence implies absence. You're there but not there.

"All my work centers around painting as performance, as an act that brings with it the artist's whole body.

My photographs involve a performance for the camera. I paint directly on my skin, and then photograph myself, and then I print this on cotton rag paper. In the final images, my body isn't exactly visible. It's there, but not there, as the painting takes over.

My canvases also begin with a performative process. I dip my shoulder and arms into liquid paint and then rub them down the side of the canvas. It's a simple movement that I repeat across the surface. I'm looking for a sense of rhythm in the marks.

In Chinese painting, it's not so much the marks you look at, as the way the energy moves around those marks. That space is empty, empty but full. If I think of my big marks as traces of myself, then maybe what I'm doing is emptying out. I'm looking for what happens in the flow around me – and seeing painting as a dynamic, a form of energy, a 'Movement Score'."

Katy Martin, 2021

Live Performance 'Movement is a Mark' | Sunday, May 30, 3 pm - 4 pm

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

Please email at contact@garageartcenter.org.

* Please check our website for more information.

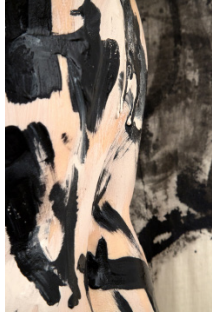
Image List

Price upon request



Animation in Blue

2019 - 2021
37" H x 12" W
Photo collage
(fake film strip)
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



As If (#21-6023)

2017 -2021
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



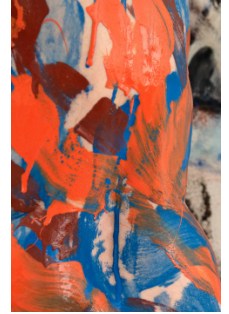
Sanguine (#73-0529)

2020
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



Kintsugi (#52-5808)

2020
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



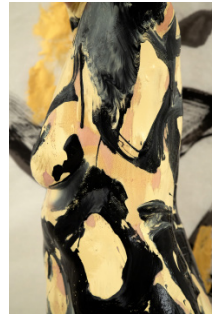
Kintsugi (#51-5495)

2019 -2020
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



Notes (#25-9892)

2018
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



Visitation (#27-2011)

2018 -2019
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



As If (#21-6068)

2017 -2019
23" H x 16" W
Photo - paint on skin
Digital inkjet on
cotton rag paper



Movement Score #18

2019 -2020
59" H x 84" W
Acrylic on canvas