

"Three Exhibitions To See in New York This Weekend: From David Smith at Hauser & Wirth to Katherine Bradford at Canada" Wallace Ludel, The Art Newspaper. April 29 2021. https://www.theartnewspaper.com/review/three-exhibitions-to-see-in-new-york-this-weekend-30-april

Katherine Bradford: Mother Paintings

Until 15 May at Canada, 60 Lispenard Street, Manhattan



Katherine Bradford explores varying degrees of familial intimacy across seven new works in this exhibition. While her particular touch with colour is consistent here with recent bodies of work, these paintings feel new for the artist, both in her handling of the figures and in the sense of narrative that she embraces. Subjects in these paintings relate to one another in a fresh way—though they float in and out of the picture plane, which is a dependably seductive aspect of Bradford's work, they now bump into one another and connect in subtle ways that imply lifetimes' worth of affection and desire. There are tender, healing embraces, as well as lonesome ones; touches that look like unconscious reflexes of lifelong adoration, and others that sting with their oafish straining, all of which are familiar. Cumulatively, the show crescendos into a sense of wonder at the ways in which our lives are spent simultaneously together and alone; how love is both a tragedy and a comedy, and how right and vital it feels to swim in it.