

## THE BROOKLYN RAIL

Berrigan, Anselm. "On Katherine Bradford." *The Brooklyn Rail*, 1 Feb. 2023, <https://brooklynrail.org/2023/02/1by1/On-Katherine-Bradford>.

### On Katherine Bradford



Katherine Bradford, *Mutiny*, 2020. Acrylic on canvas, diptych: 68 x 160 inches. Courtesy Canada Gallery.

#### Freegreets

couple no shirts, fear of shoes, tell it what it is  
avatari: I too make spiral tracks on the sea floor  
when K wants more courage she looks at the way  
Rose draws a leg, the barn your studio, one leg  
ghosted, one hip impinged and set for replace-  
ment, Mera from Xebel, Jackson Hyde, & Arthur  
Curry, constellated, half a melon holding up the shack  
by which mammal shadows repose, the mutineer  
may be saved by the buoyancy of citrus, the living room  
corner my dusky shark deskolalia, the mutineer  
doesn't want to be there for one more lunch, chilling  
though, chilling like a villain I trained the 3-yr-old  
to tell the babysitter poet, when I want more courage  
I call courage's agent, no, I make myself pick a place  
in page space to start, imagine if we'd had different  
teachers, in paint in person, who said do life drawing

overwhelmed by red water surfaces, from a real horse?  
your imagination reinvents red from memory every  
time you hear the word red, reds added to seeing  
have their say, they ran from the waves but stayed  
in the painting, reflection digging the purple light  
& spurning reflectivity, there's a large out of focus  
reflectivity monster roaming the seaside, formally  
and emotionally she felt the need for lifeguards  
as plasma in tights I make occasional comments  
on havoc, mutiny's inner edges in the plane, will  
they prevent the sea worms from eating the casual  
cop, if not simply tubular shapes alight in the four-  
ground, are they bobbit worms or bristle worms  
pyrosomes or sea squirts, because of the lack of hard  
evidence the Mongolian death worm is widely accepted  
as just being a legend, don't talk about money, don't  
talk about being sick, don't talk about yourself, dude  
looks facelessly relaxed for a mutiny, realism is a  
variable, or is it a variability -- go ask Alex, making lists  
predates all so-called generations, the way universality  
ignores aliens, but I need to borrow money, getting sick  
gets me out of things, & I can't assert myself anywhere  
but here, yellow sinews playing with scale, inflation -  
whatever, fax me when stag-flation looms in the doom-  
light, too many drunk Santas fucking with my red, mother  
magenta, what did the mutineer do to the clouds?

for and after Katherine Bradford