

KING'S LEAP

NADA Miami 2021 Presentation Description

Audrey Gair, Joe W. Speier, Michelle Uckotter

King's Leap is proud to present a 10 x 10-foot booth with three artists from the gallery's program: Audrey Gair, Joe W. Speier, and Michelle Uckotter. All three artists have had solo shows at the gallery within the year. Gair, Speier, and Uckotter met while living together in Baltimore, subsequently moved to New York, and are currently in close conversation.

Audrey Gair (b. 1992) is a Miami born artist based in New York. Her paintings are granular and macroscopic, examining the relationship between the city and the individual. Gair's work, at once personal, diaristic, and dreamlike, is often painted from the perspective of children or imaginary city-dwelling inhabitants. Her compositions, which share frequently recurring motifs, formally distort the picture plane and structurally provoke the limits of painting and daily life. At NADA, Gair will present her new series of pointillist abstract cityscapes.

Joe W. Speier (b. 1992) is a Cincinnati born artist based in New York. Speier will show an extension of recent work, wherein he appropriates found drawings by anonymous and untrained artists and transcribes them pixel-by-pixel using ballpoint pen. Speier weaves his pen-rendered forms into imagery sourced from adult coloring books: a new therapeutic activity that resonates with millennials for its twee and feel-good imagery. These works examine Speier's interests in the tension between art for therapy or vocation and raise questions about the authorial and authentic intention of the artist.

Michelle Uckotter (b. 1992) is a Cincinnati born artist based in New York. Her oil pastel on panel paintings feature evocative and cinematic scenes that are as cavernous as they are claustrophobic. Uckotter's paintings feature girls walking and playing in basements, attics, crawl spaces, and hallways. Her girls, climbing stairs and passing ethereally through doors, embody both innocence and danger. Evocative and psychological, Uckotter's paintings examine the interstitial spaces between gender, experience, and memory.