

KATE SHEPHERD

Surveillance

March 12 – April 18, 2020

Opening reception: Thursday, March 12, 6:00pm – 8:00pm



Kate Shepherd, *Pocket Watch*, 2020.
Enamel on panel. [Photographed with reflections.]

Galerie Lelong & Co. is pleased to present *Surveillance*, a solo exhibition of work created in the past year by New York-based artist Kate Shepherd. Known for her richly colored paintings built with layers of monochromatic enamel, Shepherd here charts new territory in her decades-long exploration of perspectival space. Chief among Shepherd's concerns in these works is their relationship to their environs; the various reflective surfaces establish a spatial discourse across the panel, the viewer, and the gallery space.

Surveillance presents two bodies of work conceived and executed in tandem. The first group, on display in the main gallery, incorporates chromatic trapezoids that cut through the picture plane. These shapes—which the artist calls “surrogate paintings”—function as architectonic premises, delineating volume and the space between them. Shepherd defines these forms through difference in textures, rather than with her signature fine lines. In many of these works, she interrupts the glossy quality of the enamel, sanding large areas down to produce velvety fields that show pentimenti of color and faint lines of obliterated brushstrokes. These shifts in color and finish complicate how distinct areas of the painting reflect their surroundings and ultimately create a push-pull. Being situationally reactive to light and movement, the paintings take on sculptural characteristics in their constant change.

On view in the smaller gallery, a second body of work recalls the daguerreotype's image-making process. Shepherd begins these works by leaning paintings in her studio at varied angles, allowing the paintings' environments to be reflected within their compositions. The artist then photographs the painting and using the same enamel paint, screen prints this image onto a panel. Born out of this referential loop, these works evince a dialogue with memory and the act of surveillance.

Concurrent with the gallery's presentation, Shepherd is exhibiting in the group show *Unapologetic: All Women, All Year* at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) through January 31, 2021. On April 29, 2020, Shepherd will lecture at The Menil Collection in Houston, Texas. Part of the Menil's permanent collection, Shepherd's work *Yellow Shunning Figure* (2008) will also be exhibited in the galleries this spring.

Born in 1961 in New York City, Kate Shepherd continues to live and work there. Her work is featured in numerous museum collections, including The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York; Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts; The Microsoft Art Collection; and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York. Solo exhibitions of the artist's work have been held at institutions including The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; Charlotte and Philip Hanes Art Gallery, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and The Chinati Foundation, Marfa, Texas.

For press enquiries, please contact Grace Hong, 212.315.0470 or grace@galerielelong.com.

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00am - 6:00pm.

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