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Keltie Ferris at Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York

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KELTIE FERRIS: M\A\R\C\H. Installation view at Mitchell-Innes & Nash, NY
(Courtesy: Mitchell Innes & Nash; Photo: Mark-Woods.com)

Mitchell-Innes & Nash gallery in New York is hosting an exhibition “M\A\R\C\H” by artist Keltie Ferris that will be on view through May 6, 2017.

The exhibition presents works from the ongoing series of body prints by New York based artist Keltie Ferris (b.1977, Louisville, Kentucky), marking her third solo with the gallery. Known for her large-scale canvases covered with layers of spray paint and hand-painted geometric fields, the exhibited body prints offer an unusual avenue in the artist’s practice, where she injects herself physically into her own work, both as a form of self-portraiture and as an alternate means

of mark-making. The artist coats her body, nude or clothed, with oil and presses herself against paper on the floor of her studio, then covering the impression with powdered pigment, resulting a photographic yet fragmented impression, recalling an X-ray or Xerox copy. With these new works, Ferris continues to explore painting as a personal index and the literal relationship between the artist and his or her work, which are similar to the attempts by [Yves Klein](#), David Hammons or [Jasper Johns](#). But unlike her predecessors, Ferris' body prints reject an easy gendered identification of the body, suggesting a fluid and performative state of gender identity. As no two prints are exactly the same, each work represents a multitude of forms, which when displayed together, present individual facets of the artist's identity, both autonomous and dependent.