

## Preview: Eddie Martinez + Sam Moyer Get Joint Exhibition at South Etna Montauk Foundation

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Sam Moyer, "On the 4th," 2022. Marble, acrylic on plaster-coated canvas mounted to MDF; 23 1/2 x 28 3/4 x 1 in (59.7 x 73 x 2.5 cm). Photo: JSP Art Photography. Courtesy the artist, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, and the South Etna Montauk Foundation, Montauk.

An upcoming exhibition of the works of [Christo](#) and Jeanne-Claude at Aspen's [Hexton Gallery](#) (opening August 1), as well as the current and impressively monumental survey of French duo [Les Lalanne](#) at London's Claridge's and Ben Brown Fine Arts both offer the unique chance to better understand the gender dynamics of working married couples in the arts. However, as of Christo's passing in May of 2020, all four have already left behind this mortal existence.

But the new and concisely titled exhibition *Eddie Martinez + Sam Moyer* – opening tomorrow, July 2 at the [South Etna Montauk Foundation](#) – allows for a very different opportunity to view how those dynamics are playing out IRL in a very different, 21st Century context.

# MITCHELL-INNES & NASH



Eddie Martinez, "DDSE (Interior Exterior Landscape Whiteout)," 2022.

Pigment suspended in linen pulp on a cotton base  
sheet; 40 x 60 in (101.6 x 152.4 cm).

Photo: Jeffrey Sturges. Courtesy the artist, Dieu-Donné, Brooklyn, and the South  
Etna Montauk Foundation, Montauk.

Martinez, born in Connecticut in 1977, made his name with large scale paintings often infused with a wild energy and tension-filled tumult that at times has recalled Julian Schnabel or even Jean-Michel Basquiat, the latter an obvious influence. Moyer, a native Chicagoan, came into this world in 1983, and now counts herself amongst a new generation of women (see also: Caitlin Longan) who are reshaping the boundaries and visceral essence of the long male dominated practice of artistic abstraction. Her work has at times even evinced a sculptural influence, proving her to be an artist of thoughtful exploration. The pair are married and currently live in Brooklyn – and July 2 happens to be their wedding anniversary, a nice conceptual touch.

The South Etna MF show will feature four of Moyer's latest "stone paintings," and she indeed does source real marble and slate from local stone yards. Her careful placement of the stones is meant to stimulate the interplay between layering, texture and light – and she even also allows them to wander beyond the frame, asking the viewer to consider what might be happening beyond the visible.

Martinez, on the other hand, introduces an entirely new technique for him, the result of a residency at Dieu-Donné, the non-profit cultural center at Brooklyn Navy Yard. And so for these new works he painted with pigment suspended in linen pulp, essentially ultimately painting on paper with paper. There is a seeming abstraction, even a bit of chaos to the organization of the images; but the flora and fauna he paints are nevertheless vivid within that seeming visual pandemonium.

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The gallery smartly evokes the Rainer Maria Rilke quote, “two solitudes which border, protect, and greet each other,” in examining how the husband-and-wife dynamics play out here. But perhaps Lee Krasner’s observation that, “If one is a painter, all you experience does come out when you’re painting,” is even more apropos – as it might just be that this exhibition will offer an uncommon opportunity to delve a bit biographically into the two married painters’ relationship.

Yet Adam Lindmeann, South Etna co-founder along with his wife Amalia Dayan, very much enthuses individually on each.

“We’ve long admired Eddie’s work as a painter,” he explains, “and consider him one of the leading talents of his generation...one who hasn’t come up through the traditional mega gallery system. He’s brought into his vocabulary themes that relate to both outsider and insider art, and it’s given him an international voice that differentiates him from his peers.”

And of Moyer he observes, “She [has] defied the logic around materials and aesthetics, her use of stone and weighty works that look light and abstract gives her work a magic feel and touch.”

*Eddie Martinez + Sam Moyer* will be on view at South Etna Montauk Foundation through July 31.



Eddie Martinez, “DDSE (Interior Exterior Landscape),” 2022.

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Sturges. Courtesy the artist, Dieu-Donné,

Brooklyn, and the South Etna Montauk, Foundation, Montauk.