

DANIELLE MCKINNEY
Midnight Oil

On View June 24 – July 25, 2021 | 100 South Spring Street, Aspen, CO



Danielle McKinney, *Blue Room*, 2021 Acrylic on canvas 20 x 16 in 50.8 x 40.6 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York and Aspen. © Danielle McKinney.

Marianne Boesky Gallery is pleased to present *Midnight Oil*, an exhibition of new paintings by Danielle McKinney shown on the second floor of the gallery's Aspen location from June 24 – July 25, 2021. The works on view capture profoundly contemplative scenes with engaging and expressive energy, highlighting the artist's intuitive observation of human life and feeling. *Midnight Oil* is the artist's first exhibition with Marianne Boesky Gallery.

McKinney's paintings present intimate portraits of a lone protagonist, primarily female, lost in moments of deep reflection and respite within lushly colored interior spaces. In these scenes, the artist pays particular attention to the gaze of her subject. At times, the figure captures the viewer's eye, but most often the subject focuses on a space only visible to them, engrossed in their own solitude and rituals. The nuanced details of the paintings – a trail of smoke, the glisten of a necklace – invite further observation to reveal hidden narratives, exploring themes of spirituality and the self with cathartic effect.

In her works, McKinney skillfully delves into the formal elements of painting and image-making, apparent in the gestures and careful cropping of her subjects, attention to light and space, and the subtle symbolic references found in her distinct compositions. This imagery is made all the more arresting by the methods McKinney employs from her experiences as a photographer in the darkroom, building up her compositions from a background of black paint to intensify the

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depth and vibrance of the scenes. Her paintings evoke a sense of timelessness, recalling art historical references and an imbedded canon of portraiture. Mckinney's intuitive and minimal brushstrokes create vignettes that are self-reflective, pulling from the artist's own experiences, and yet strikingly familiar in their human moments of rest and action.

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Danielle Mckinney (b. 1981) creates narrative paintings that often focus on the solitary female protagonist. In these intimate portraits, Mckinney captures the figure immersed in various leisurely pursuits and moments of deep reflection. Engaging with themes of spirituality and self, her paintings uncover hidden narratives and conjure dreamlike spaces, often within the interior domestic sphere. With a background in photography, Mckinney paints with an acute awareness of the female gaze, employing deeply colorful hues and nuanced details with cinematic effect. Mckinney received her BFA from Atlanta College of Arts and holds an MFA in Photography from Parsons School of design. Her work has most recently been presented in exhibitions at Fortnight Institute, New York; Half Gallery, New York and FLAG Art Foundation, New York. The artist lives and works in Jersey City, NJ.

About Marianne Boesky Gallery

Since its inception in 1996, Marianne Boesky Gallery has represented and supported the work of emerging and established contemporary international artists of all media. In its first decade, the gallery was instrumental in launching the careers of major artists through an innovative exhibition program; and in 2016, the gallery expanded its flagship location to its adjacent space on West 24th Street. The gallery's newest location, Boesky West, opened in 2017 in Aspen, CO, and presents rotating exhibitions by both gallery artists and artists invited to present special projects. Now, the gallery continues to actively represent many significant artists such as Ghada Amer, Donald Moffett, Sanford Biggers and Frank Stella, among others. To learn more, visit marianneboeskygallery.com.

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For more information about Danielle Mckinney, please contact Gallery Director Michael Plunkett at michael@boeskygallery.com or 212-680-9889. For press inquiries, please contact Thomas Dewey Davis, THIRD EYE, at thomas@hellothirdeye.com.

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