

2016 Saint-Gaudens Fellow  
**Katie Bell**  
*Showroom*

May 27 – July 16, 2017

*Saint-Gaudens Memorial Exhibitions at the  
Picture Gallery  
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site  
Cornish, New Hampshire*

This exhibition is sponsored through the generosity of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial.

The Saint-Gaudens Memorial is a private, non-profit organization chartered by the State of New Hampshire in 1919, to preserve and exhibit Saint-Gaudens's home and studios and to preserve his work there. The Memorial operated the site as a museum until 1965, when they donated the property to the National Park Service to become the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. The Memorial continues to play an important role as a park partner and supports the Site in a variety of ways including sponsoring programs and activities such as this exhibition, the summer concert series, and other events that increase public awareness of

Augustus Saint-Gaudens and his works, and that promote sculpture and the arts in general.

The Fellowship of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial was established in 1977 to assist artists of promise. A Fellow is selected annually by the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, from a pool of candidates put forward by the Fellowship Committee and advisors, and is awarded to artists who have completed a body of work that demonstrates exceptional talent, and who may benefit from the recognition and financial grant that accompany the Fellowship. The year following the Fellowship, the artist submits works for installation, as part of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial exhibition series at the Picture Gallery.

To find out more or to help us by becoming a friend of Saint-Gaudens please contact us at (914) 944-1608 or email us at [SGMemorial@aol.com](mailto:SGMemorial@aol.com) or visit us on the web at [www.sgnhs.org](http://www.sgnhs.org).

I make physical, sculptural paintings that are comprised of found material. I scavenge dumpsters in areas where cabinets are built. I search for material on Craigslist and pick it up from someone's living room. Common building materials are ingredients to tie, saw, cut, throw, stack, and coerce together. These actions are combined with paint strokes and splatters that take control of the unruly subject.

I am interested in scenarios and artifacts where the artificial and natural are confused. There is tragedy in these forms, straddling the real and unreal in their futility. I think about the history of the material, what's behind it, what will be in front of it, and why this is our visual language. I think about the surface of walls, the layers behind walls, and how we compile the structures that surround us.

Rubble and construction fragments turn into future ruins. These ruins are confusing. Faux geode rocks, fish tank gravel, linoleum, and Formica are mixed into the earth and become future ruins. I follow the unraveling threads of these ideas and objects collecting them, questioning them, testing their balance, and tying them together to carry.

## Katie Bell

Born 1985 Rockford, Illinois  
Lives and works in Brooklyn, New York

### Education

- 2011 Rhode Island School of Design, MFA with Honors, Painting
- 2008 Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois. BA Degree Cum Laude

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2016 *Stage Presents*, Penn State, State College, Pennsylvania  
*Backsplash*, Locust Projects, Miami, Florida  
*Construct*, Harper College, Chicago, Illinois
- 2014 *Face Off*, Space Gallery, Portland, Maine  
*Skewer Shower*, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Peter Jay Sharp Building, Brooklyn, New York  
*Light Weight*, Mixed Greens, New York, New York
- 2012 *Day Dusting*, Okay Mountain Gallery, Austin, Texas

### Group Exhibitions

- 2016 *Helter Skelter*, Launch F18 New York, New York  
*Transaction*, Knockdown Center curated by Elijah Wheat Showroom, Queens, New York  
*Faulted Valley Fog*, Transmitter, Brooklyn, New York  
*Painting Reassembled*, SUNY Westchester Community College, Westchester, New York
- 2015 *Handmade Abstract*, BRIC, Brooklyn, New York  
Object'hood, Lesley Heller Workspace curated by Inna Babaeva and Gelah Penn, New York, New York
- 2014 *SiTE:LAB* at the old Morton Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- 2013 *Limber*, Herbert Read Gallery, Canterbury UK and the Grandes Galleries de L'Erba, Rouen, France  
*Material*, Storefront Bushwick, curated by Liz Dimmitt, Brooklyn, New York  
*Paint Things*, DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, Massachusetts
- 2012 *Bleach Blue*, FJORD Gallery, Philadelphia, PA  
Primary, Nudashank, Baltimore, Maryland  
Masculinisms, Garden Party/ARTS, Brooklyn, New York

### Awards and Honors

- 2016 Saint-Gaudens Memorial Fellowship  
Young Alumni Achievement Award, Knox College
- 2015 Painting Fellowship, New York Foundation for the Arts, New York, New York
- 2013 Shortlisted, 100 Painters of Tomorrow, Thames and Hudson
- 2011 Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation, Space Program, New York, New York

### Bibliography

- 2016 McMahon, Katherine "Habitat: Moonlighting," *Art News*, Vol. 115, No. 4
- Bui, Phong "Artists to Artists," Volume 2, 25 *Years of the Marie Walsh Sharpe Space Program*
- Mason, Isabella "Katie Bell at Locust Projects, Miami," *Blouin ArtInfo*, Nov. 4th
- Kaiser-Schatzlein, Rob "Katie Bell's Miami Breakthrough," *Two Coats of Paint*, Sept. 23
- Saltz, Jerry, "Never Has My Breath Been Taken Away Like It Was at Knockdown Center," *Vulture*, June 16
- 2015 *Montem Magazine*, Issue #5 (Tokyo, Japan)
- Salama, Cecilia, "Katie Bell Will Pull the Rug Out From Under You," Opening Ceremony Blog
- Mullis, Sidney, *Maake Magazine*, Fall 2015
- 2014 Toomer, Helen, "How Art World Insiders Started Their Must-See Collections," *Refinery* 29, March 25
- New American Paintings*, #110, Northeast Edition, March 2014
- Galgiani, Allison, "Artist Flashcards: Why Katie Bell is Boss," *Bushwick Daily*, March 26
- 2013 Cole, Lori, "PAINT THINGS, Beyond the Stretcher," *Critics' Picks*, *Art Forum*, March 26
- Johnson, Paddy, "8 Great Brooklyn Artists Under 30," *The L Magazine*, March 13-26
- Garza, Evan and Dina Deitsch, "PAINT THINGS, Beyond the Stretcher," (exhibition catalog)
- 2012 "Katie Bell by John O'Connor," *Artists on Artists*, *BOMB*, Number 121, Fall 2012
- Labarre, Suzanne, "Katie Bell, An Artist who Paints with Torn Apart Houses," *Fast Company*