

MATTHEW MARKS GALLERY

523 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011 Tel: 212-243-0200 Fax: 212-243-0047

PRESS RELEASE

Leidy Churchman: New You

March 11 – April 23, 2022

Opening: Thursday, March 10, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Matthew Marks is pleased to announce **Leidy Churchman: New You**, the next exhibition in his gallery at 523 West 24th Street. Featuring new paintings and monotypes, this will be Churchman's second exhibition at the gallery.

Churchman is well known for their wide-ranging subject matter, which draws variously from nature, contemporary media, everyday objects, as well as myriad cultural signs and symbols. The work, either representational or abstract, is informed by Churchman's deep immersion in the traditions and philosophy of Buddhism. Whether painting the view from a trail in Maine's Acadia National Park, or a small delicately-colored abstraction, the artist conceives of each painting in the exhibition as part of an interconnected body of work. The simultaneous presentation of seemingly disparate paintings is intended to encourage a deeper engagement with each work beyond its most immediate perception.

Eternal Life, 2021, which at over seventeen-feet across is among the artist's largest paintings to date, depicts a rocky coastline with a rectangular black void at the center. Waterlilies float in salt water as an oversized-grasshopper looks on from the margins and what appear to be parts of a robot-like skeleton intrude at the edge. The painting is an homage to both Monet and American landscape painting, while simultaneously evoking a computer desktop.

"I love the surprise that comes from giving attention to an idea," Churchman has said, "the surprise comes from the image, or idea, merging with painting. Painting ultimately takes over and is more powerful than the information."

Leidy Churchman (b. 1979) was born in Villanova, Pennsylvania, and lives and works in New York and Maine. Churchman's work has been shown at museums including MoMA PS1 in New York, Fondazione Prada in Venice, Museum Brandhorst in Munich, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. One-person exhibitions include the Kölnischer Kunstverein in Cologne, the Boston University Art Gallery, the Hessel Museum at CCS Bard in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, and the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

Leidy Churchman: New You is on view from March 11 to April 23 at 523 West 24th Street, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For additional information, please contact Cory Nomura at 212-243-0200 or cory@matthewmarks.com.