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## 'Body', A Group show at Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | NOVEMBER 18, 2017



Anna Ilsley, *The Arrangement*, oil on canvas, 30 x 20 cm (Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London)

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Hjellegjerde Gallery in London presents a group show featuring works of Maha Ahmed, Annie Attridge, Hélène Delége, Rachel Garrard, Anna Ilsley, and Katja Larsson titled, "Body."

The exhibition focuses on the juxtapositions of the reality that humankind inherits which is an amalgamation of opposites; a contrasting reality of complementary forces. These contrasting pushes and pulls of hard and soft expressions constructed through structured as well as organic expressions of reality and imagination creates the dichotomy of masculinity and femininity, which 'Body' the show celebrates brilliantly. The group show at Kristin Hjellegjerde brings together the works of six female artists who focus their painterly practices upon these contrasting paradigms to celebrate the joyous and messy relationships between the self and the other featuring the secrecy and intimacy that they share. The central theme has been put forth with materials and thoughts through private and communal histories which juxtapose to raise questions regarding the expressions of relationships and complexity of sexuality. The approach of the featured artists presented by the exhibition probe established norms as well as the intimate worlds between individuals and within the self.

Maha Ahmed's works explore the self-identity in consequence of the other while in Annie Attridge's playful porcelain series presents 'should of' 'could of' and 'would of' with scenes and snippets of shapes and forms of imagined or real lustful trysts. Anna Ilsley's focuses on the female form, sexuality as well as desires with her colorful, figurative works. Katja Larsson projects relationships between bodies as the key to the dialectics of masculinity and femininity. Different materials are also at the heart of Hélène Delége's practice. Her paintings and constructed textiles incorporate symbols, objects, fabrics, and pain to question human relationships and hierarchies within genders. Moving more into the realm of the abstract are the pastel-hued works of Rachel Garrard, using a pigment derived from a powdered rock collected by the artist from the remote Andean peaks of South America.

*The exhibition is on view through December 21, 2017, at Kristin Hjellegjerde Galler, 533 Old York Rd, London SW18 1TG, UK.*

*For details, visit: <https://kristinhjellegjerde.com> (<https://kristinhjellegjerde.com/>)*

*Click on the slideshow for a sneak peek at the artworks.*

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