

ART SPIEL

Contemporary Art and Culture

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 BY ANNA SHUKEYLO

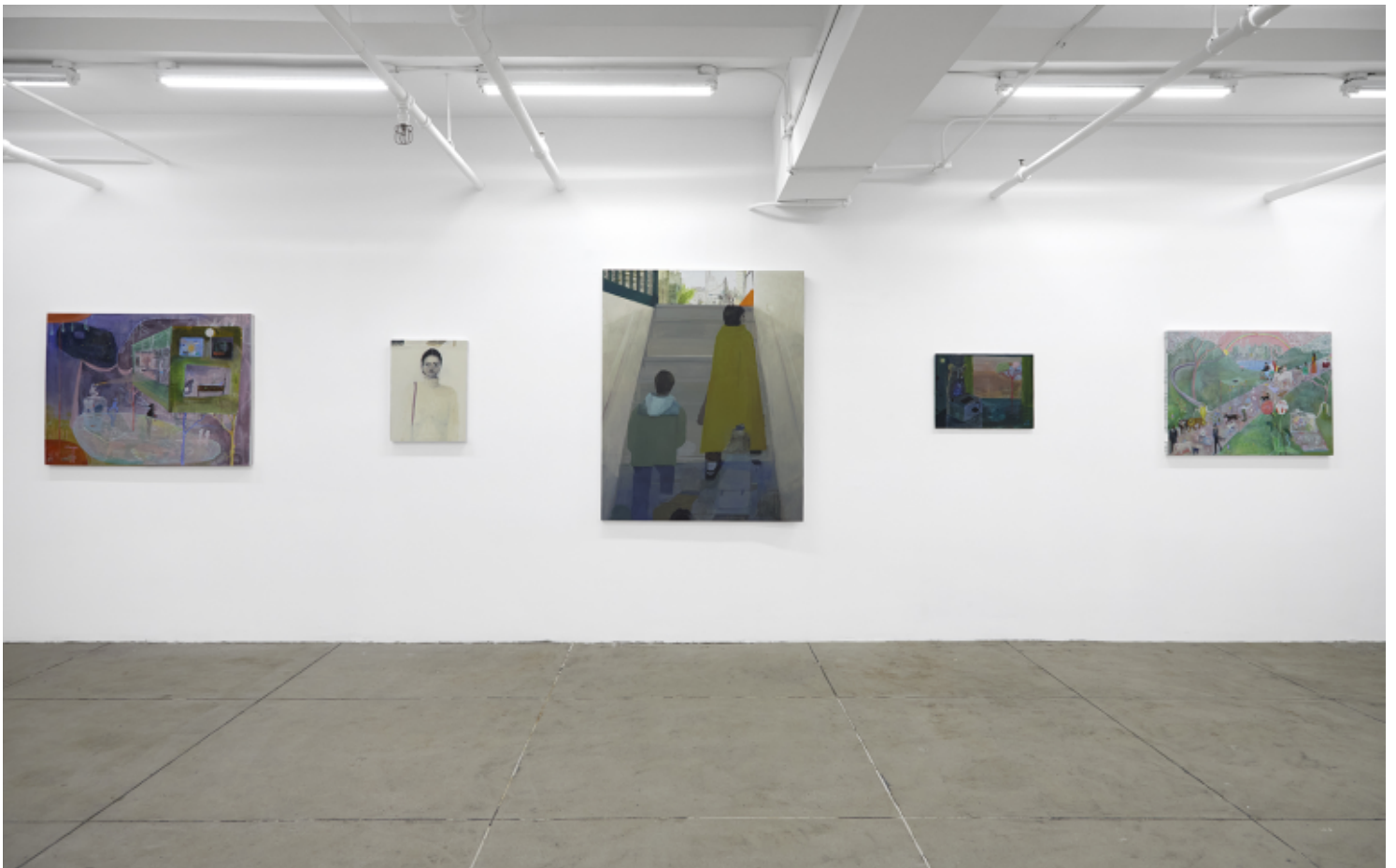
Art Spiel Picks: Chelsea Exhibitions in October 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

***Daily Nights* at Monya Rowe Gallery @monya_rowe_gallery**

On view through: October 12, 2024

Featuring: Lacey Black & Aubrey Levinthal



Installation view: LACEY BLACK & AUBREY LEVINTHAL, Daily Nights, Courtesy of Monya Rowe Gallery

The haunting and melancholy figures by Aubrey Leventhal found an unlikely but complementary pairing to Lacey Black's colorful, fantastical, and bizarre dream imagery in this two-person show. Aubrey Levinthal, known for her muted colors and thinly painted figures which are carefully composed in space, pushes this body of work to new extremes by presenting juxtaposing shapes and playing with Vuillardesque optical illusion. The showstopper is a painting called *Ascending Subway (Stairs)* which shows a female figure in a chartreuse coat and a few others emerging from the subway with the cityscape in the top quarter of the painting. The seemingly geometric composition comes to one moment of peak drama where the top of the female figure's head is aligned with the top stair.

Lacey Black, a new artist to the gallery, brings a fantastical flair to the show with Bosch-like dream imagery and bright but also thinly painted surfaces. Her various choices of surfaces, which range from paper to panel to canvas, all have a multi-layered transparent quality, adding to her paintings' dreamlike feel. Black's complex narrative and ample detail in each piece allow endless observation of her unraveling stories.