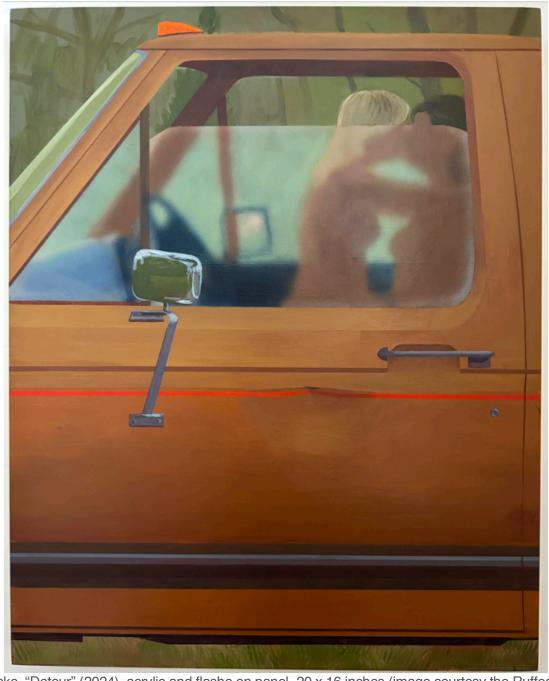
HYPERALLERGIC

10 Exhibitions to See in Upstate New York This May

By Taliesin Thomas April 30, 2024



Marcelle Reinecke, "Detour" (2024), acrylic and flashe on panel, 20 x 16 inches (image courtesy the Ruffed Grouse Gallery)

Julia Policastro and Marcelle Reinecke

This two-person show at the Ruffed Grouse Gallery in Narrowsburg is an amusing pairing of dynamic figuration and biological abstraction. Taking inspiration from late Medieval and early Renaissance aesthetics, Julia Policastro's recent three-dimensional quasi-sculptural paintings engage with familiar shapes such as windows, architectural spaces, and organic forms to create atypical vignettes. "Windowsill Sunset" (2024), made of wood, acrylic, foam board, plaster, and joint compound, for instance, nearly pops off the wall with its playful presence. Figurative painter Marcelle Reinecke employs a rich color palette to tease out visions of female figures engaging in familiar activities such as swimming, napping, and hiking in the woods, all laced with a voyeuristic edge. In "Harvest Moon" (2024), several characters stand around a tremendous midnight fire that illuminates their distinct moods: one figure slugs a drink; another, hooded in blue, looks off blankly; and a woman with freckles stares right at us as the dude to her left lights up her cigarette. The mood is fascinatingly bizarre — I wanted to enter the picture plane, directly into Reinecke's peculiar party.



Marcelle Reinecke "Harvest Moon" (2024), acrylic and flashe on panel, 22 x 30 inches (image courtesy the Ruffed Grouse Gallery)