

# Bridget Mullen

Live

Wires

**On View** August 25 to November 31, 2018

Lighthouse Works is delighted to announce Bridget Mullen's *Live Wires*, our final show of 2018.

*Live Wires* explores points of connection and contingency, both physical and metaphysical. Mullen uses figures, and elements of figuration, to consider how we bond and touch; her never-ending figures hook arms and clay links intertwine, exhibiting dependencies. Her work oscillates between the polarities of the figurative and abstract, the melodic and dissonant, and the security of togetherness and the anxiety of impermanence.

Play is a vital part of Mullen's practice. Using improvisation, jarring scale shifts, and unique color relationships, she's able to bond together chaotic layers to create a tenuous symbiosis. Mullen uses these same strategies to create her sculptures. By fashioning separate clay links she ultimately constructs and conceives of the pieces simultaneously, in the moment of their installation. And like the paintings that hang nearby, these clay links point to the act of transformation, of becoming.

The power of Mullen's work is rooted in the uncertainty of its making. Working circuitously without plans, she determines her figures free-associatively, responding to formal propositions instead of consciously building a narrative. She discovers her subjects in the possibilities of the abstractions becoming figurative—often exercising restraint in over-clarifying an image that teeters between being nameable and abstract. Mullen's work remains ambiguous to sustain uncertainty as a way of accepting the anxiety of the constantly changing present moment. In this way, she fuses joy with the unknown.

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*Bridget Mullen makes figurative paintings and sculptures that at first glance can appear entirely abstract. Through the repetition of ambiguous imagery in disjointed layers, she rejects pictorial space and conventional narrative to create a distorted, dream-like environment akin to the subjective, perhaps pre-verbal experience of memory.*

*She holds an MFA from Massachusetts College of Art and a BAE from Drake University. She has attended residencies at The Jan Van Eyck Academie, The Lighthouse Works, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Roswell Artist-In-Residence Program, The Fine Arts Work Center, VCCA, and Yaddo. Mullen has participated in group shows at DC Moore Gallery, NY; Thierry Goldberg, NY; Kopeikin Gallery, L.A., L21, Spain, and has had solo shows at Annet Gelink Gallery in Amsterdam, NL and Satellite Contemporary in Las Vegas, NV among others. She was a 2017-2018 recipient of a studio from the Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program in Brooklyn, NY. Mullen was born in Winona, Minnesota and lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.*







## LIGHTHOUSE WORKS

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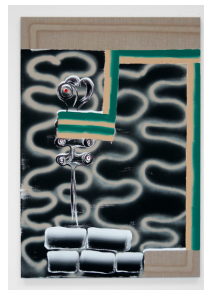
Live

Wires

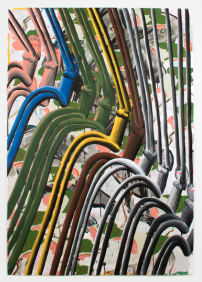
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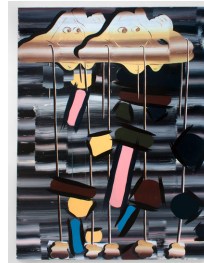
*Links 1*  
Fishers Island clay  
2018  
31" x 16" x 3"



*Step*  
Acrylic paint and spray  
paint on linen  
2017  
43" x 30"



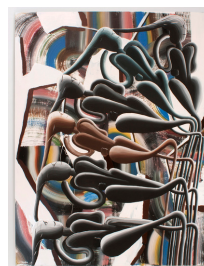
*I've Decided the Past Is  
Not Worth Forgetting*  
Acrylic paint and ink on  
paper  
2016  
44" x 30"



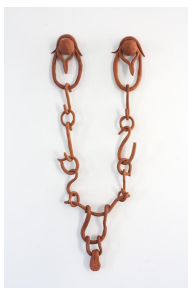
*Death Prep*  
Acrylic paint on panel  
2017  
48" x 36"



*Forgettable Sunsets*  
Acrylic paint and spray  
paint on linen  
2017  
47" x 35"



*Live Wires*  
Acrylic paint on panel  
2017  
48" x 36"



*Links 2*  
Fishers Island clay  
2018  
40" x 15" x 3"



*To Be of Use*  
Spray paint, Flashe and  
silk screen on linen  
2018  
33 1/2" x 21 1/2"



*Links 3*  
Fishers Island clay  
2018  
10" x 5" x 3"