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Art That Makes You Smile: 5 Exhibitions to See This Summer That Are Plain and Simple Fun for the Whole Family

Some of the most memorable art is that which brings a smile to the faces of onlookers, and, this season, there's plenty to see.

Maria Vogel, June 14, 2019

Katherine Bradford, "Legs and Stripes" at Campoli Presti



Katherine Bradford, Wedding Ceremony (2019). Courtesy of the artist and Campoli Presti, London / Paris.

Katherine Bradford's fun, colorful explorations into figurative abstraction have traveled across the pond to the U.K. in her first solo show with <u>Campoli Presti</u>. Gleefully titled *Legs and Stripes*, Bradford adorns her canvases with various human and non-human characters while creating a reoccurring focal point of legs alongside different arrangements of stripes. As explored in past bodies of work, Bradford employs these motifs as a way to further investigate color fields in painting. The scenes are both lively and absurd: heads (some with faces and some without) appear out of a dark abyss; a cat with pointy ears and whiskers stands amongst humans; and arms detached from their bodies frantically reach out into the picture planes. Each individual work seems to tell a (mysterious and playful) story all its own.

Apart from the subject matter, the colors in Bradford's paintings are enough to brighten any mood. Bradford employs a palette of lively hues that seem to span the entirety of the rainbow, livening up the white walls of the gallery and generating a sense of visual euphoria.

"Legs and Stripes" at Campoli Presti, London is on view through July 27th.