

Editors Picks: 11 Events for Your Art Calendar This Week, From a Talk With Jordan Casteel to Rashid Johnson at Storm King

Sarah Cascone, April 5, 2021

Saturday, May 8



Emily Marie Miller, *Envy in the Wings* (2021). Courtesy of Monya Rowe.

9. **“Emily Marie Miller: If I Cannot Bend the Gods Above, Then I Will Move the Infernal Regions” at Monya Rowe, New York**

In new large-scale works, painter Emily Marie Miller depicts a fantastical, nighttime world filled only with women in theatrically staged scenarios engaging in various erotic entanglements. Partly inspired by Liz Greene’s 1996 book *The Astrological Neptune and the Quest for Redemption*, Miller reimagines the Neptunian archetype’s desire to return to a worldly paradise within these images of seeming abandon. The women that populate these scenes appear slightly blurred, as though hazily recalled in a dream, and it seems possible that just one protagonist appears multiplied again and again. Allusions to fairy tales and films reverberate—a reappearing pair of scarlet slippers bring to mind the 1948 technicolor film *The Red Shoes*, while the stage-like interior scenes call to mind choreographed ballets, particularly *Giselle*. Humming with dark blues and burning reds, the paintings are a kind of one-woman burlesque, performed primarily for oneself and to delightfully lurid effect.

Location: Monya Rowe, 224 West 30th Street, #1005, New York

Time: Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.– 6 p.m.

—Katie White