

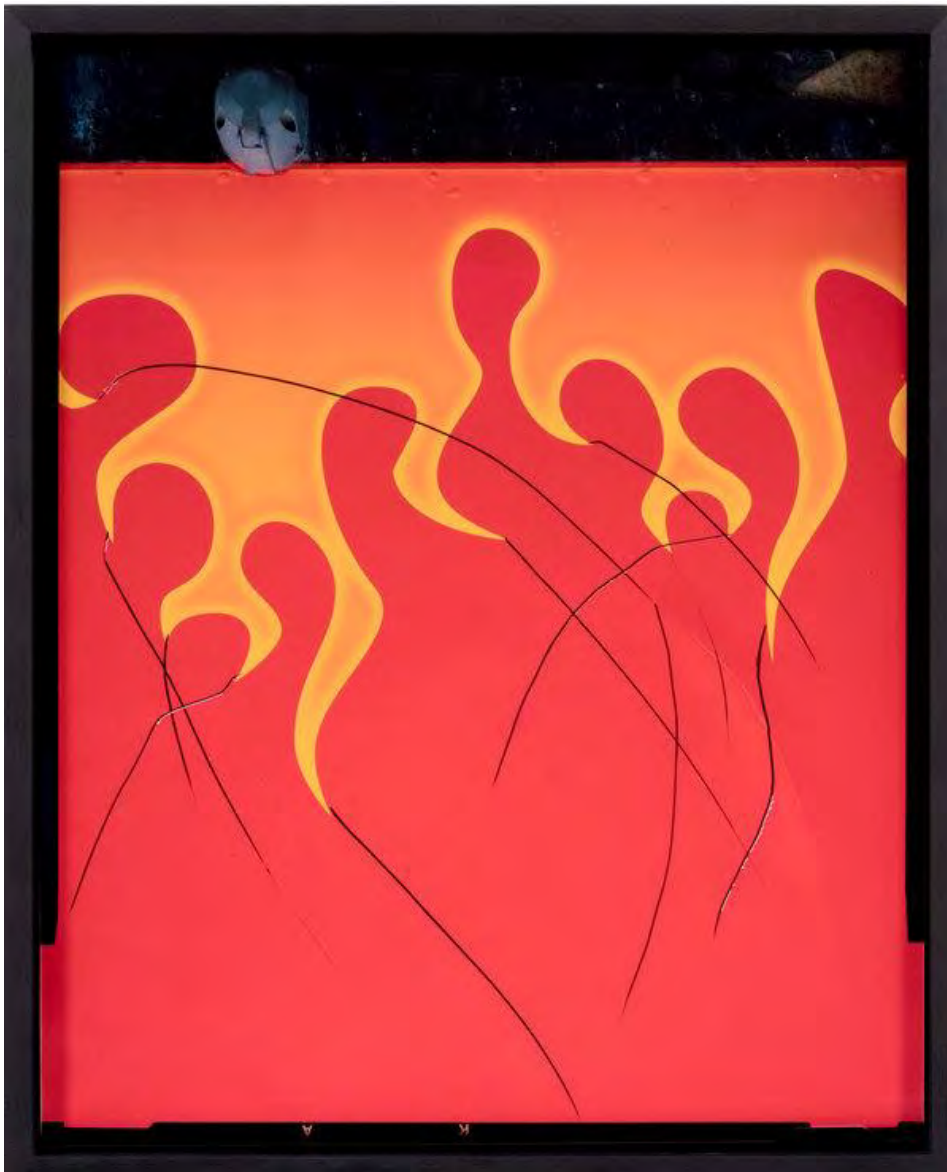
"What to see in New York Galleries This Week; Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili", Roberta Smith, *The New York Times*, June 9, 2016

The New York Times

What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week

Art in review, from Times critics.

JUNE 9, 2016



Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili's "who lived well (flames)," at Andrea Rosen Gallery 2.
Credit Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York and Galerie Micky Schubert, Berlin

Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili, 'Hollow Body'

By ROBERTA SMITH

"Hollow Body" is the New York gallery debut of Ketuta Alexi-Meskhishvili, who was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, has a bachelor of fine arts in photography from Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., and is now based in Berlin. It is a small, concise and lovely show of work that takes an almost multimedia approach to photography, evoking aspects of performance, painting and installation art. This diversification of photography is also a trend, of which this show is a symptom, albeit an impressive one.

The works, at Andrea Rosen Gallery 2, refer often to the photographic process and vary greatly in size, starting big at the gallery's entrance. There, gauzy curtains are printed with an abstract photograph in shades of yellow, pink, blue and lavender, recurring colors throughout the show. In many cases — including "Osile (magenta)," a large image whose soft pinks and white suggest a photogram — the workaday black edges of a print negative are visible.

Three smaller images pay homage to the photographers Lee Friedlander, [Francesca Woodman](#) and Robert Mapplethorpe; they also interrelate and use the same model, a woman identified as the artist's physical trainer. The Friedlander tribute is best: a witty image of the woman wearing only a nearly invisible fishnet body stocking while reclining somewhat gingerly in a studio signaled by a thick blue electrical cord bisecting the view diagonally.

Also notable are a large photograph of a faded blue book about the artist Edvard Munch shot against a blue background, and "who lived well (flames)," a close-up of a charming orange-on-red street-art painting of flames disfigured with delicate scratches. Amid the seductive softness of this show, its intensity stands out.

[Andrea Rosen Gallery 2](#)

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Through June 18