

State of the Arts: 2014 Spring Arts Preview

“Enduring: Figurative paintings explore troubling waters”
April 12 to May 31 at Connersmith

By Kriston Capps, February 14, 2014



Katie Miller, *A Young Lady Adorned with Beads*,
2013, oil on panel, 40.5 x 27.25 inches
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It is important to note that painter Katie Miller is drawing directly from artists who are so large they are practically commercial brands, namely John Currin and Lisa Yuskavage. Her artworks—typically, realistic paintings of babies with distorted features—tap into the same Freudian themes while diverging into self-referential territory to question painting and its modes. Is it also important to mention that she’s autistic? Maybe not, but it isn’t something that the artist would shy away from: She’s an activist in the neurodiversity movement, which aims to expand the normative boundaries of mental health. With her figurative paintings, though, she dives deep into troubling waters.