

RUTTKOWSKI;68

PRESS RELEASE

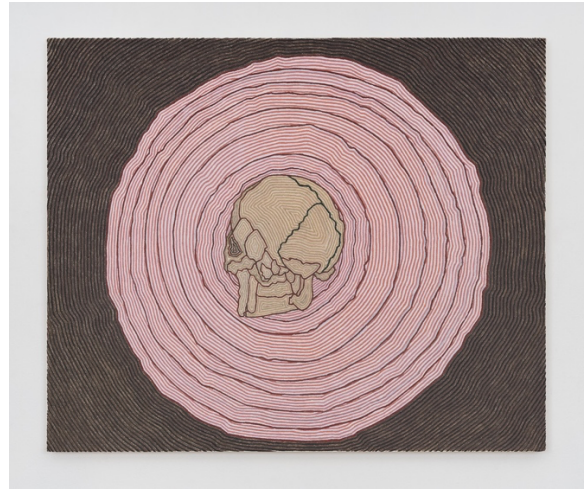
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brittany Miller

Primal Sound

May 15 – June 13, 2026

Brittany Miller (b. 1990, US) presents *Primal Sound*, her first solo exhibition in New York and her first with Ruttkowski;68. Inspired by Rainer Maria Rilke's essay of the same name, Miller's work is rooted in a compulsive need to find her way toward the unknowable.



In an enigmatic text, Rainer Maria Rilke imagines a phonograph needle tracing the sutures of a human skull to hear what it might contain. A curious proposition: memory embedded in form, the body itself an archive of sound.

Miller's work is rooted in a similar compulsive need to find her way toward the unknowable. Her paintings move through caves, labyrinths, forests, and fortresses—enclosed, protective, and at times disorienting spaces long associated with ritual and retreat. Mythology and symbolism permeate the paintings, and the skull returns as both relic and chamber holding the quiet tension of the search and the surrender.

This search finds formal expression in Miller's meditative line, stacked and insistent across the surface, less as mark-making than as attunement. Up close, the marks cohere, almost audible in their density; at a distance, they flicker and release. The paintings press us toward encounters where *the known and the incomprehensible come forcibly together*.

A literary current moves through the work. Descent narratives, particularly the Orpheus myth, anchor a broader language of poetry, mysticism, and metaphysical inquiry. These texts function like a spine running through the exhibition, quietly holding its structure in place.

Beneath it all is the rhythmic peculiarity of Miller's imagination.

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Artist Bio

Brittany Miller (b. 1990, Utica, New York) is an American painter whose work explores interior emotional space through mythology, symbolism, and ritual.

Miller's paintings draw upon universal myths and a functional cosmology that connect viewers to one another, to the natural world, and to the universe. The subject matter marries far off objects—portals, castles, labyrinths, and spaceships—to a linear fixation of color used as a means of reaching order and meaning. Figures encounter the supernatural: levitations, messages from elsewhere, and visits from otherworldly beings. Miller's paintings interweave symbols from disparate sources—fabulist literature, theater, and children's picture books—through meticulously constructed concentric lines. Her paintings graphically echo the sensibilities of optical art, but more closely reflect a sustained commitment to the hand-made and the deeply personal. The work suggests an illusion, where marks may hum together up close or flicker at a distance, inviting the viewer to enter the scene and find communion there.

Miller received a BFA/MS from Pratt Institute (2013) and an MA from Columbia University (2023). She lives and works in the Bronx, New York.

About Ruttkowski;68

Ruttkowski;68 is a global art gallery operating at the intersection of fine art and contemporary culture. Founded in 2010 by Nils Müller in honor of the late German underground music figure Sven Ruttkowski, the gallery's origin continues to inform an ever-present dialogue between fine art, music, fashion, and subculture. Today, the gallery represents contemporary artists working across a wide range of practices—including painting, sculpture, installation, and time-based media—advancing both emerging and established voices. With galleries in Cologne (2010), Paris (2018), Düsseldorf (2021), New York (2023), and Bochum (2025), Ruttkowski;68 presents an ambitious exhibition program shaped by international crosscurrents between Europe and the United States.

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May 16 – June 13, 2026
Opening reception: Friday, May 15, 6–9 PM

Ruttkowski;68
46 Cortlandt Alley
New York, NY 10013

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Above: Brittany Miller, *Holy Wood*, Oil on canvas, 48 x 60 inches.

Page 1: Brittany Miller, *Proteus*, Oil on canvas, 30 x 36 inches.

Photography by Mikhail Mishin. Courtesy of Ruttkowski;68.