

Louis B. James

John Miserendino *your pores smaller*



May 15- June 21, 2015

Opening Reception Friday May 15, 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Louis B. James is pleased to present *your pores smaller*, a solo exhibition of new work by John Miserendino. It is Miserendino's first show with the gallery. Working at the intersection of painting and sculpture, Miserendino employs a range of techniques to alter marble slabs through the addition and subtraction of dye from inside the stone.

Miserendino views this interaction with the marble as a kind of forced collaboration—part rigorous scientific investigation, part chance—between himself and the natural structure of the material. The artist has developed various methods through which to insert, direct, pull, and remove dye, though the encounter with the stone is, by nature, playful and open-ended. Each stone reacts differently to the artist's interventions; the color of the dye shifts based on stone density, while veining, fissures and inclusions can affect color intensity and placement. The resulting compositions represent a kind of conversation between previously indiscernible properties of the stone and the artist's hand.

The compositions are fluid yet achieved through a rigorous engagement with the material in a dialogue sometimes lasting weeks. Since no dye sits on the surface of the stone, the viewer is primarily seeing through the face of each slab. The dye is suspended in shallow relief, fusing itself to the internal structure of the material. The works can change dramatically with their environment as light penetrates and reveals the interior of the stone. Miserendino is interested in materials functioning as active players in an interaction with both the maker and the viewer.

John Miserendino (b. 1980) lives and works in New York, NY. He has a BA in architecture from Cornell University. His work has been exhibited at Recess, NY (2014); Pioneer Works, NY (2013); the Museum of Modern Art, NY (2012); Kunsthaus Dresden (2012); in the Lille Biennial (2009), among other venues. His work has been reviewed in *The New Yorker*, *Artinfo.com*, *Purple Diary*, *Interview Magazine*, among other publications.

Louis B. James is located at 143b Orchard Street, New York. The gallery is open from Wednesday through Saturday, 11:00 to 6:00, and Sunday from 12:00 to 6:00. For more information please email info@louisbjames.com or call (212) 533 4670.