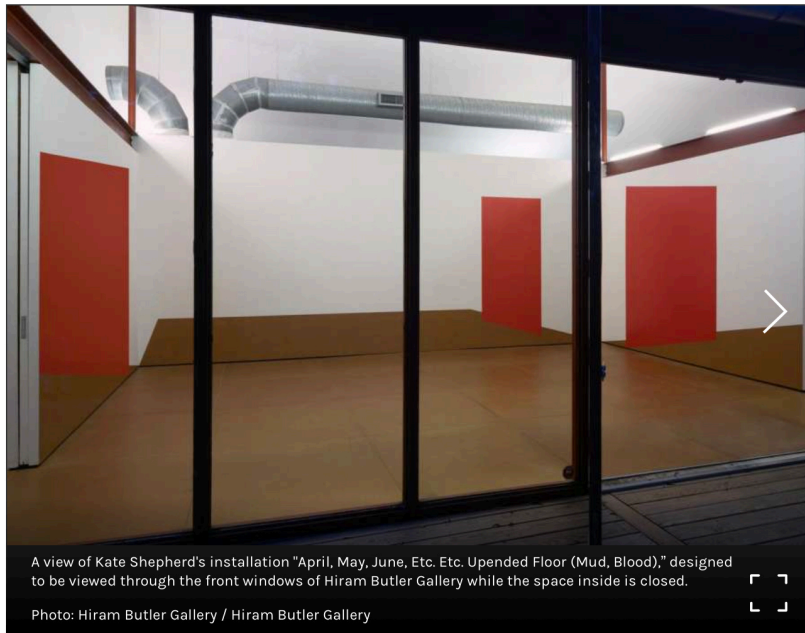


## ‘Kate Shepherd: April, May, June, Etc., Etc., Upended Floor (Mud, Blood)’



Molly Glentzer | June 4, 2020 Updated: June 4, 2020, 10:34 am



A view of Kate Shepherd's installation "April, May, June, Etc. Etc. Upended Floor (Mud, Blood)," designed to be viewed through the front windows of Hiram Butler Gallery while the space inside is closed.

Photo: Hiram Butler Gallery / Hiram Butler Gallery

## ‘Kate Shepherd: April, May, June, Etc., Etc., Upended Floor (Mud, Blood)’

*Hiram Butler Gallery, 4520 Blossom, 713-863-7097, [hirambutler.com](http://hirambutler.com). By appointment; outdoor viewing 5-8 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays.*

An inventive workaround for visitors who still aren't ready to step inside a building with other breathing humans, Kate Shepherd's show is still meant to be viewed in person.

A kind of existential tour de force, it is best experienced from outside, through the gallery's front windows, preferably at dusk, when the light is best for the optical illusion: The installation creates the sense of a proscenium space in the gallery's narrow entry room, where several large canvases appear to hang on the walls.

In fact the whole thing is a three-wall painting. Shepherd, a blue-chip artist from New York, is known for combining mirror-like and matte surfaces in paintings, whether on canvas or directly on walls, that bounce images back into a room.

"I like things that are seemingly simple but multiply in some way," she says in a statement about the Houston installation. "I knew there could be something funny going on." Gallery director Josh Pazda executed the piece, following Shepherd's measurements.

Architecture shifts with the surrogate paintings, and the challenge of perspective becomes a quiet metaphor for a world that has become scarier and slightly unreal.

With the gallery now also open by appointment, the larger room where Shepherd would have created a different show this spring holds architecture inspired striped canvases by Matt Kleberg that were initially made for an ill-fated April pop-up show in San Antonio.