

Frieze

The Best Shows in New York During Armory Week

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From Jana Euler's slugs to Kelly Akashi's glass sponges,
these are the must-see spring exhibitions



Jana Euler
Artists Space
21 February - 19 April

There's a slug strapped to a column on the facade of Artists Space. Made of stuffed linen painted an edible red, it's both the funniest and saddest gesture in Jana Euler's exhibition 'Unform'. Rain will likely soak the giant gastropod until it droops in flaccid disrepair. Inside, slugs perform other aerial feats, forming rings around columns like great ouroboric chandeliers. The works give sculptural life to Euler's witty paintings of insects, such as *Slug Speed of Slug* (2018), whizzing through their surroundings at improbable speeds. By comparison, the eight paintings on view here seem like last-minute additions to the sculptures – though *gwf 9, Richter / Baselitz* (2019), Euler's ghostly portrait of a shark, stands out for combining the best-known tricks of its titular male German artists (blurry layers of grey paint and monumental verticality, respectively) while also resembling an uncircumcised penis.