Herbert, Martin. 'Martin Herbert's pick of exhibitions to see in September'. ArtReview Online. September 2018 [excerpt]

## **ArtReview**

## Martin Herbert's pick of exhibitions to see in September



Amy Sillman, ein Paar, 2017 (installation view Capitain Petzel, Berlin, 2017). Photo: Jens Ziehe. © the artist. Courtesy Capitain Petzel, Berlin

## Amy Sillman at Camden Arts Centre, London, 28 September - 6 January

Something simpler? How about a solo show by a painter. But then if we choose Amy Sillman's first British institutional exhibition, straightforwardness is out. The Detroit-born artist's 30 new works here will tour her knotty yet suave approach to painting, which synthesises postwar abstraction, sultry echoes of South-of-France Matisse, hints of psychedelia, fragments of figuration and a general sense of the bodily. But that's not the complicated bit. Sillman is also materially heterodox, venturing out not only into printmaking but video animations and zines (her entire back catalogue of these, plus a takeaway new one, will be included here), and this show will additionally feature a site-specific, made-to-fit installation involving double-sided canvases. Similarly to Laura Owens, who also works in conversation with digital media and the prospects for painting it's crowbarred open, Sillman is an artist whose fundamental inventiveness and verve make questions of the medium's validity evaporate as you look. She's also, gallingly, a very good critical writer. Go see.

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