In Loving Memory

A Mike Kelley Retrospective



In Loving Memory

BY KATE FERENCZ + BEN FURGAL

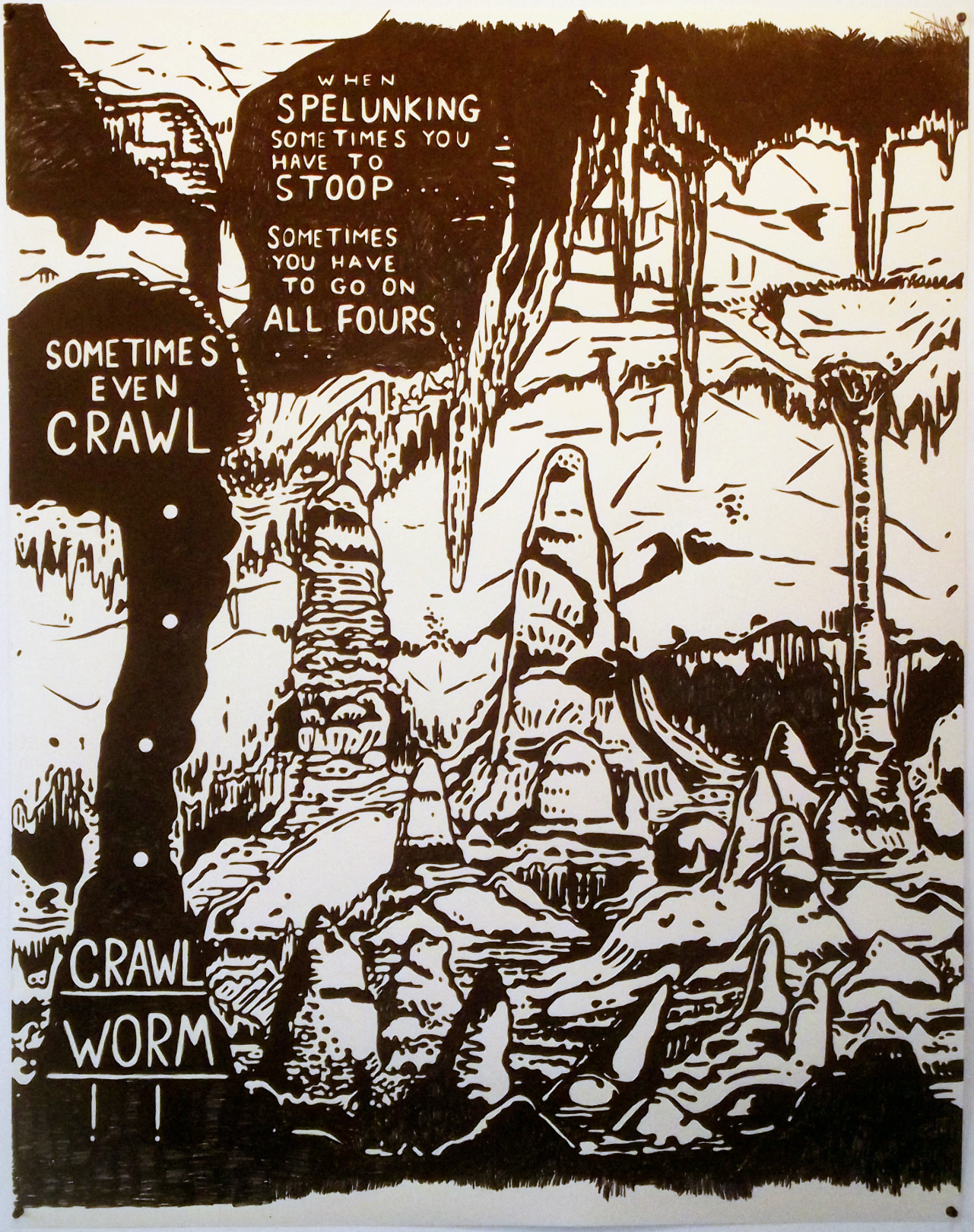
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Mike Kelley had a vastly influential career that spanned three decades of writing, music, painting, sculpture, photography, installation, performance and video. It seemed like he could do anything and that there was no level of success he couldn't attain - at least when measured by conventional art world standards. He was represented by one of the largest galleries in the world and had an impressive list of museum shows behind as well as ahead of him at the time of his death. This is odd, considering that once said that he became an artist because he wanted to be a failure. When he committed suicide almost exactly a year ago, it seemed like it might have been too much success that killed him. It feels appropriate to us that we should pay our last respects to him in our comparatively small artist-run gallery space in Philadelphia.

Kelley's work often dealt with memory, including repressed or inaccurate memories. With his inspiring ability to work in seemingly any discipline he took interest in, he often made things that bore little or no aesthetic resemblance to each other. As a result, even though consistent conceptual themes run throughout his work, the idea of who Mike Kelley was as an artist can vary greatly from person to person. In loving memory, each of the artists in this show recreated the work that they remember best.



Mike Kelley
Exploring from Plato's Cave, Rothko's Chapel, Lincoln's Profile, 1985
synthetic polymer paint on paper pinned to canvas, 76 1/2 x 64 inches



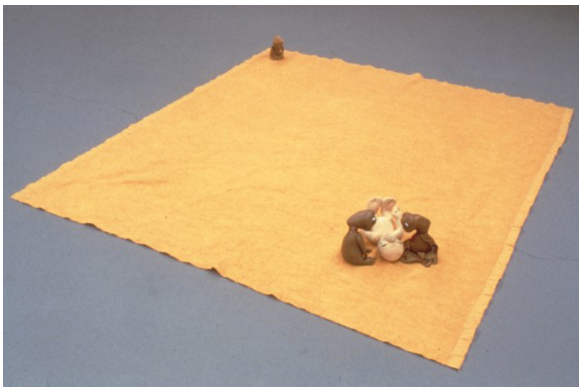
Ben Furgal + Kate Ferencz
Mike Kelley Reconstruction : Exploring, 2013
marker on paper, 44 x 34 inches



Mike Kelley
Arena #4 (Zen Garden), 1990
stuffed animals under afghan, 72 × 52 inches



Colleen Asper
The Princess, the Pea, and the Rod, 2013
objects under blanket, 42 x 42 x 8 inches



Mike Kelley
Arena #5 (E.T's), 1990
stuffed animals on blanket, 7 x 97 x 87 inches



Justin Samson
Arena # ?, 2013
stuffed animals on blanket, 44 x 60 x 8 inches



Mike Kelley
Silver Ball, 1994
aluminum foil, polyurethane foam, wood, chicken wire, speakers, four boomboxes, three baskets, and artificial fruit,
ball 60 inches diameter , blanket 84 x 60 inches



Ben Furgal
Mike Kelley Reconstruction : Silver Ball, 2013
aluminum foil, three cassette players, chicken wire, polyurathane foam, aluminum insulation sheeting, baskets, synthetic fruit
ball 60 inches diameter , blanket 84 x 60 inches



Mike Kelley
Deodorized Central Mass with Satellites, 1991-1999
mixed media installation comprised of: one central mass and twelve satellites consisting of found stuffed animals sewn over wooden and wire mesh frames with Styrofoam packing material; ten deodorizers consisting of fiberglass, car lacquer, electronic device with distilled water and spruce needle sauna infusion; metal hardware, nylon rope, and pulleys,
installation dimensions variable



Lindsey Dickson + Justin Samson
Deodorized Central Mass with Satellite, 2013
acrylic paint, cardboard, hot glue, styrofoam, stuffed animals, air freshener
ball 18 inches diameter, deodorizer 20 x 55 inches



Mike Kelley
Free Gesture Frozen, Submitting to Personification (Unfinished Blue Fingerpainting, Reversed), 1989/2002
acrylic on velvet mounted on shaped wood panel, rubber stopper, metal, faux gemstones, 67 x 95 x 6 inches



Justin Samson
Free Gesture Frozen, Submitting to Personification (Unfinished Blue Fingerpainting, Reversed), 2013
acrylic on felt mounted on shaped wood panel, faux gemstones, 44 x 72 x 4 inches



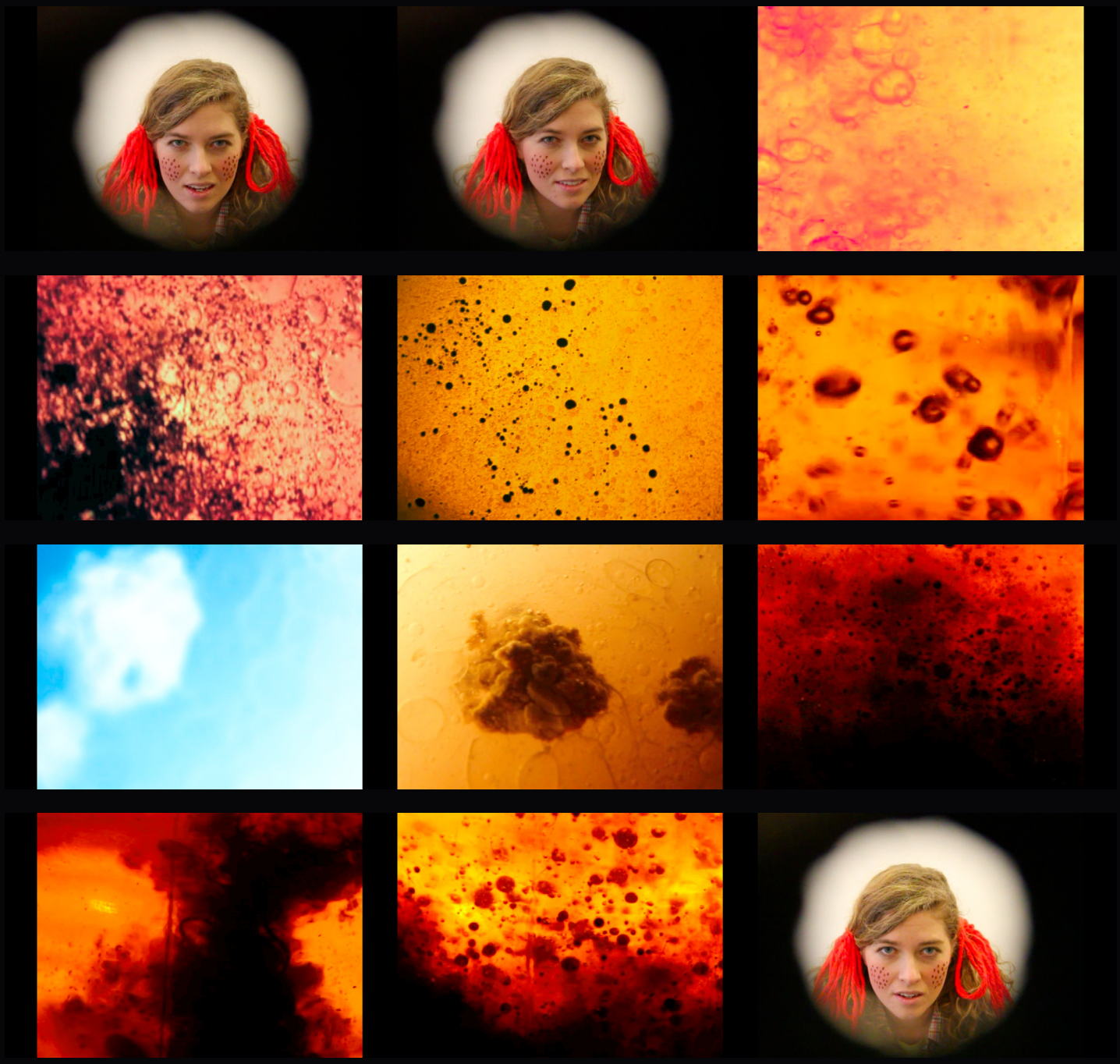
Mike Kelley
Day Is Done, 2005-2006
DVD 169 min, color, sound



Kate Ferencz
Day Is Done (The Shy Satanist), 2013
DVD 1 min, color, sound



Mike Kelley
Day Is Done, 2005-2006
DVD 169 min, color, sound



Kate Ferencz
Day Is Done (The Hillbilly's Dark Tale), 2013
DVD 3 min, color, sound



Mike Kelley
Untitled (Mike Kelley Throw Potatoes At A Gong), 2009
Performance for A Fantastic World Superimposed On Reality: A Select History Of Experimental Music



Devon Dunhill Clapp
Paranoid of Blondes, 2013
DVD 2 mins, color, sound



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