Saturday, December 15th, 2012

Picture Monet’s garden as a graffiti-tagged plot in Bushwick and you get some sense of the grit, bravado, and beauty of these big abstract paintings made of oil, spray paint, and pastel. In nine canvasses that range in size from six to nine feet tall, the young Kentucky-born, New York-based artist compresses a century’s worth of abstract tendencies in two-dimensional images—from the shimmering smears of Impressionism through Kenneth Noland’s chevrons and stains to digital pixellation. Ferris is a natural-born colorist and her surfaces, while densely layered, rarely feel labored. But, at times, the controlled chaos of the compositions becomes flailing, as if the abundance of energy is more than even the artist herself can rein in. Through Jan. 12.

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