

# ABATTOIR

## Katie Butler

### Bio

Katie Butler (b. 1995) is a painter based in Akron, Ohio. She received her BFA in painting and drawing from the University of Akron in 2017 and her MFA in painting from Kent State University in 2021. Her work has been exhibited regionally and nationally; recent exhibitions include A Seat at the Table at SPRING/BREAK Art Show in New York, New Narratives at Abattoir Gallery in Cleveland, and Potluck at Hashimoto Contemporary in Los Angeles.

### Artist Statement

Katie Butler's paintings use food and domestic settings to subtly address contemporary political issues. These unsettling tablescapes subvert the technical norms of the still life genre in the 17th century to comment on wealth and power in recent American politics.

Illogical shifts in perspective disorient the painting space. Sharp knives looming above eye level, exaggerations in scale, and tight compositions fuel the tension. Moments away from being gutted, filleted, and consumed, fish and crustaceans stare at the viewer with anxious eyes. These paintings question who the feast is for, and who is paying the tab.