

- **Solo exhibition**, Last Touch, Gallery NAGA, 67 Newbury Street, Boston, MA
May 31-July 13, 2018, Reception May 31, 5-7pm

<https://www.gallerynaga.com/exhibition-archives/sophia-ainslie-last-touch-bryan-mcfarlane-like-weather-may-31-july-13-2018/>

https://www.artsy.net/show/gallery-naga-sophia-ainslie-last-touch-slash-bryan-mcfarlane-like-the-weather?sort=partner_show_position

Gallery NAGA

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Sophia Ainslie: *Last Touch*

May 31 – July 13 at Gallery NAGA

Gallery NAGA will welcome summer with a splash of color.

Sophia Ainslie began using a single X-ray of her mother's abdomen as source material for her paintings—both as a way to hold onto the memory of her mother and to absorb the meaning of her passing from cancer. Ainslie's visual language, derived from "collaging" carefully selected shapes found within this x-ray as well as marks and lines found in nature, creates her compositions.

Ainslie uses the computer as a cutting tool to dissect, edit and collage fragments that are reconstituted and mapped through light projection. Brushed, free-flowing India ink marks are juxtaposed with white space and flat, bright, painted color to create paintings in which each element learns to coexist while maintaining its own identity. Her intent is to create ambiguity as to whether the work is hand-made or printed and to prove that things are not always quite what they seem.

In her latest work, Ainslie is layering and abutting shapes, more fragmented and less tightly bound by black lines, that are free to float in white space. As years have passed these works bear more of a connection to the landscape than ever before. Perhaps it's a sign of healing? Maybe the memory of her mother has been released into her surroundings? The title of the exhibition, *Last Touch*, would suggest just that.

