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"STEP" OIL ON CANVAS, 71 X 64 INCHES (2012)

ALEAH CHAPIN

JANUARY 18 2013 - FEBRUARY 23 2013

OPENING RECEPTION
THURSDAY JANUARY 17 2013 6-8PM

Flowers is pleased to present Aleah Chapin's first solo show. As a continuation of her "Aunties Project," which began in the fall of 2011, this series of paintings examines Chapin's own personal history and the people who have shaped it. The exhibition will run from January 18th through February 23rd, 2013, with an opening reception on Thursday, January 17th, 2013, 6-8pm.

Aleah Chapin grew up on an island off the coast of Washington and has been painting since she was a child. Whereas her early nudes tended to leave the background neutral, with this collection of works Chapin comes to a place of synthesis between the flesh of the body and the fabric of the landscape. She captures the acute individuality of freckles on skin—or veins on a rock. The process of painting subjects whom she has known from birth allows her, and the viewer, a glimpse into the journey through life that each body has taken. The landscapes, at once real and fantastical, reflect the same contained and perfect chaos found on the skin.

Chapin's controlled use of color creates an ethereal space replete with corporeal details and unaffected texture. The point of focus on each canvas gently mandates deference to the subjects; while immediate, a respectful gaze is established through technique.

Born in 1986, Aleah Chapin won this year's BP Portrait Award at the National Portrait Gallery in London for her painting *Auntie* (2012). She is also the recipient of several other awards including the Posey Foundation Scholarship, the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant and a Postgraduate Fellowship from the New York Academy of Art, where she received her MFA. Chapin received her BFA from the Cornish College of the Arts and attended a residency at the Leipzig International Art Programme in Germany. She lives and works in New York.