

Artist Talk: Tianxing Xu

ART & THE HISTORY OF ART

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Artist Statement: If it is possible, I wish my paintings could be clean and soft, and construct chaos with absolute order. My current works began with memories of regret, unfulfilled promises, and panic. I present a collection of paintings, prints, installations, and artist's books that serve as building plans for an imagined amusement park. Hidden inside the work is a mixture of over-burnt memories and stories stolen from others. From imitating that ideal in my mind, I reconstruct and simulate a story that never happened by dismantling the elements that comprise the meaning of the park. They are the pages ripped from a diary. The images from my memory appear overexposed and spotty, as if scorching sunlight has bleached their surface, prolonging my search for clarity in recollection. This way of creation is both my self-healing of regret and absence and my self-reflection after studying Baudrillard's interpretation of symbolism and simulation and his art criticism. In constant practice and thought, I try to find some clues and echoes in aesthetics and philosophy.

Artist Bio: Tianxing Xu (b. 1996, Shanghai, China), a visual artist, was trained in oil painting at the East China Normal University from 2014 until 2018. Exchange visited Pratt Institute in 2016 and received his MFA in Painting and Drawing from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2023. He has actively participated in the art scene along the Southeast Coast, with solo exhibitions in Georgia at Alexander Hall Gallery and Alan Avery Gallery. He was involved in resident programs in Gibbes Museum of Art, Artists Association of Nantucket and Lower East Side Printshop. Currently, he continues to advance his artistic career in collaboration with the Alan Avery Art Company and Brooklyn Editions.

Books Recommended by the Artist:

Baudrillard, Jean. The Transparency of Evil. *Baudrillard, Jean. Symbolic Exchange and Death.* *Baudrillard, Jean. The Consumer Society.* *Debord, Guy. The Society of the Spectacle.* *Jameson, Fredric. Postmodernism, or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism.*

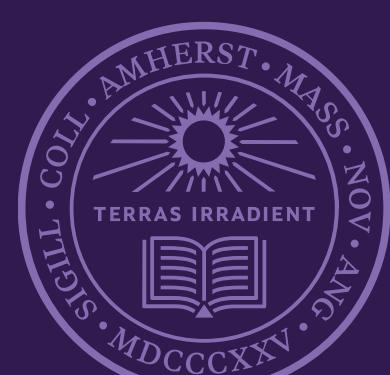
These books can be found in the Frost Library.

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