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AFTER THE ORGY 〃

TIANXING XU

Solo Exhibition
Eli Marsh Gallery, Amherst College

Sep 16 - Oct 18

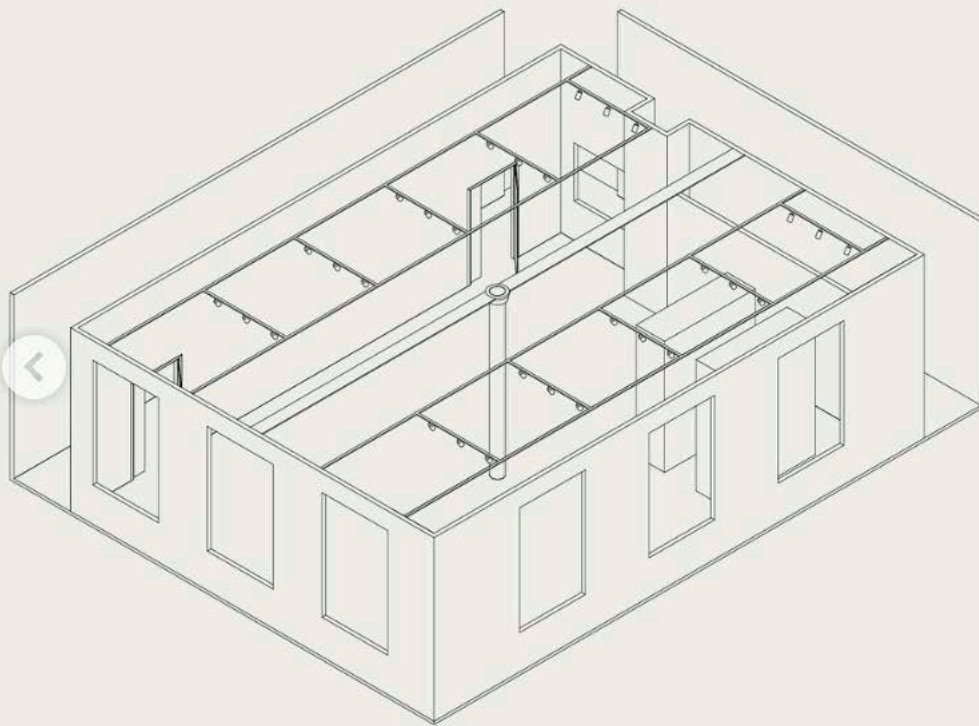
2024

105 Fayerweather Hall
220 South Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01002

CATALOG

Eli Marsh Gallery

Fayerweather Hall
Amherst College



Public Lecture
Thursday, September 26th at 5pm

Opening Reception
Thursday, September 26th at 6pm

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday, 12-4 p.m.
Closed Saturday

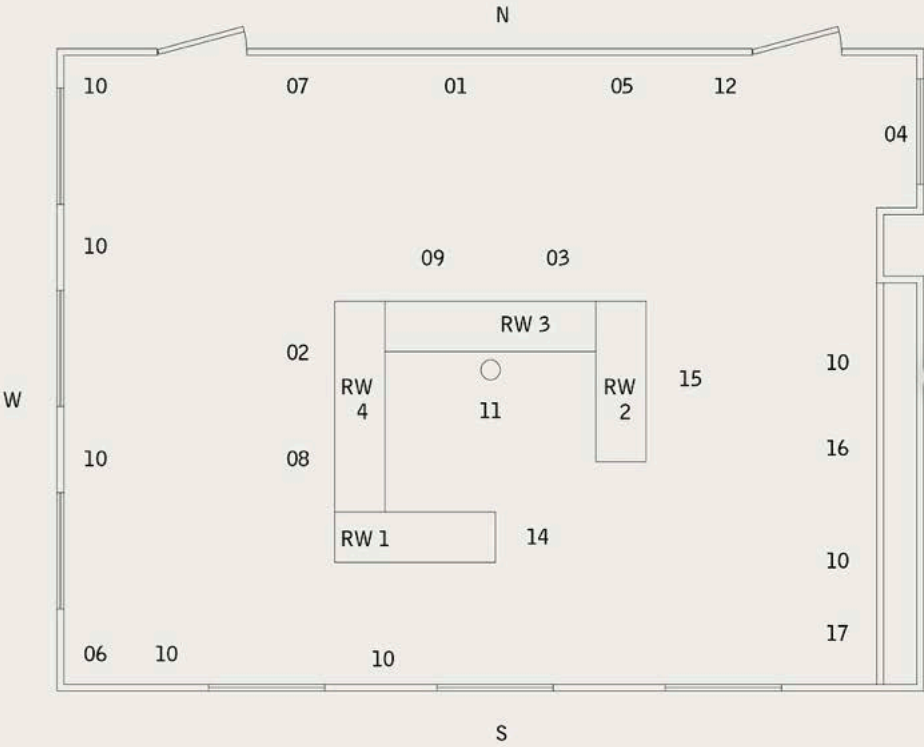
- 01 Adverse Reaction
2024
64x38 in
Acrylic and marker on canvas
- 03 Blue Banisters
2024
16x18 in
Ink and acrylic marker on canvas
- 05 Observation Period
2024
4.5x4.5 in
Acrylic and ink on panel
- 07 Adverse Reaction (Draft)
2024
18x12 in
Marker, pencil, acrylic, and watercolor on paper
- 09 Blue banisters (Draft)
2024
9x12 in
Marker, pencil, acrylic, and watercolor on paper
- 11 Regrets
2022
8 in (chain included)
Sterling silver
- 13 Simulation
2023
8x6 in
Etching with chin-collé on paper
- 15 Untitled
2022
22x16 in
Screenprint on paper
- 17 Untitled
2024
12x9 in
Etching with chin-collé on paper

EXHIBITION MAP

Eli Marsh Gallery

Floor Plans

- 02 Self Control
2024
12x24 in
Acrylic and ink on panel
- 04 Untitled
2023
8x11 in
Print on multiple media
- 06 Urby
2024
4.5x4.5 in
Acrylic and ink on panel
- 08 Self Control (Draft)
2024
9x12 in
Marker, pencil, acrylic, and watercolor on paper
- 10 Drafts Collection
2021-2023
9x12 in
Marker, pencil, acrylic, and watercolor on paper
- 12 Arrangements and games
2024
8x6 in
Ballpoint pen on paper
- 14 Untitled
2022
4x6 in
Etching on paper
- 16 Untitled
2024
15x11 in
Etching with chin-collé on paper
- Exhibition Guide
2024
6x8 in, 34 pages
Inkjet print on paper



Floor Plan Drawing: Lingzi Fei

PRESS RELEASE

■ Written by Tia Xu

01 Xu's work "The Toy Car" (2015) is a painting that depicts a toy car on a road. The car is a small, yellow, two-wheeled vehicle with a simple, rounded body. It is positioned in the center of the frame, facing right. The background is a plain, light blue sky with a few small, white clouds. The overall composition is minimalist and focuses on the details of the toy car.

02 In Xu's work "The Toy Car" (2015), the artist uses a simple, rounded toy car to explore the concept of childhood and the passage of time. The car is a small, yellow, two-wheeled vehicle with a simple, rounded body. It is positioned in the center of the frame, facing right. The background is a plain, light blue sky with a few small, white clouds. The overall composition is minimalist and focuses on the details of the toy car.

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In Xu's works, the conventional amusement park scene has been redefined and transformed into a space for observation and reflection.

Typically, amusement parks are vibrant spaces where people release emotions, enjoy thrills, and actively participate; however, in Xu's works, the introduction of elements such as traffic cones and chairs not only physically delineates the space but also psychologically enhances the distance between the audience and the scene. This shift encourages the audience (including the artist himself), to transition from active participants to contemplative observers, offering a new perspective for reassessment and reflection. These elements may symbolize waiting, isolation, and social norms, while the amusement facilities themselves evoke associations of fun, escapism, and childhood memories.

These amusement parks are no longer merely utopian spaces but have become objects of observation and reflection, their value and meaning transformed into cultural symbols reflecting their cultural and aesthetic significance. By placing these utopian scenes in an almost abstract environments, Xu emphasizes the neutrality and ambiguity of these spaces. This practice also turns the amusement park into an open symbolic platform, allowing the audience to interpret these spaces from various perspectives without the burden of cultural biases or specific historical contexts.

On the other hand, in Xu's works, the amusement park scenes, composed of highly realistic and distorted fragments, symbolize the labyrinth of the deep mind, with each detail potentially reflecting the audience's complex and unpredictable psychological state. As the audience engages with the works, they follow the fragmented information in the paintings to uncover clues leading to their inner depths, attempting to understand their deeply hidden emotions and untold stories.

The deconstructive elements in Xu's works, such as collapsing structures and colliding toy cars, provide a visual shock while also symbolizing emotional release. This visual deconstruction allows the audience to experience a sensation of release, similar to a protest against the pressures and constraints of daily life. It enables them to handle internal conflicts and tensions safely and constructively, unravel emotional entanglements, and ultimately find order and meaning beneath the seemingly chaotic surface.

"AFTER THE ORGY"

This exhibition and books are made possible with the generous support of all those who have provided assistance.

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Eli Marsh Gallery

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