



Xi Zhong, *The Stamps*

DAILY SPECIALS

A TWO-FOR-ONE EXHIBITION FEATURING:
HYPERLINK + TIGER STRIKES ASTEROID: CHICAGO

PHILIP J. STEELE GALLERY
JUNE 2 - JULY 14, 2023

OPENING RECEPTION
FRIDAY, JUNE 2 | 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

GALLERY HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.



HYPERLINK

rmcad

PHILIP J. STEELE
GALLERY

tigerstrikesasteroid.com

hyper-link.org

rmcad.edu/exhibitions

Daily Specials: A Two-For-One Exhibition Featuring Hyperlink + Tiger Strikes Asteroid: Chicago

RMCAD's Philip J. Steele Gallery

"I have a crazy, crazy love of things. I like Pliers, and scissors. I love cups, rings, and bowls, not to speak of course of hats. I love all things, not just the grandest, also the infinitely small – thimbles, spurs, and flower vases."

- Pablo Neruda

In the 1994 "*Odes to Common Things*," Chilean poet Pablo Neruda captured the delights of his everyday world. Saltshakers, socks, and crinkle-cut French fries are treated as wondrous relics. Echoing Neruda's celebration and awareness of commonplace things, art similarly helps to refocus the inattentive blindness we develop for things we encounter in our daily lives. Though we interact with the creatures, things, and space around us, we often do not truly perceive them unless they are brought to our immediate attention.

Featuring the Hyperlink and Tiger Strikes Asteroid: Chicago artist collectives, "*Daily Specials*" examines how the commonplace presents itself in contemporary art. Through puddles, plastic bags, jet streams, and rocks, selected works encourage us to consider uncomfortable oversights and marvel as the profane becomes sacred.

Artists featured in "*Daily Specials*" engage with the common in several ways, the most obvious being the use of common objects or things in the creation of an artwork or as inspiration for one. Artists like Ashley Eliza Williams find exquisite depth in rocks, moss, and lichen in *Restless Beings* (2022). Human-made objects and materials offer equally expansive opportunities. Several artists in the exhibition use plastics in the creation of many of their works. For some, the material is used purely for its visual qualities, while others like Cydney Lewis and E.C. Comstock utilize plastic to draw attention to its detrimental effects on our environment.

Reflecting on the lived experience of the everyday is another way the commonplace finds its way into art. Summer Ventis reflects on loneliness and isolation in *sky cloud/ground cloud* (2020/2023), an installation showcasing a collection of puddle images observed in the artist's daily walks during the COVID-19 quarantine. Ventis makes a marvel of an ordinary thing, transforming it into something strange, and even funny. Our perception of the commonplace also changes with time - becoming routine at one time or place and odd or shocking at another. Daisy McGowan reflects on this sentiment as she considers her childhood in a now infamous cult in her zine *Soul Shiners* (2023).

Lastly, other featured artworks explore common communal spaces and how our perception of everyday life is shaped by our surrounding built environment. Don Fodness creates an alternate reality in an Airbnb, engaging unassuming guests during their stay in a real-time art intervention for *The FM Compound* (2021 - 2023). Jaclyn Jancunski creates site-based installations that engage passersby of construction sites in quickly gentrifying neighborhoods. By creating sculptural inventions on humble chain link fences, Jancunski calls attention to these contested spaces and the politics that shape them.

"*Daily Specials*" is guest-curated by local art historian and curator Lauren Hartog and features work by both local and national artists Ashley Eliza Williams, Cydney Lewis, D. Dominick Lombardi, Daisy McGowan, Debra Kayes, Don Fodness, E.C. Comstock, Holly Cahill, Ian Fisher, Jaclyn Jancunski, Julia Klein, Julie Puma, Karen Dana Cohen, Lynné Bowman Cravens, Matthew Harris, Summer Ventis, Theresa Anderson, Xi Zhang, and Zehra Khan.

Works on View

Cydney Lewis
Pearls of Snow
2017
High Density Polyethylene plastic bags, butterflies,
wire
89 x 62 x 4 inches



Daisy McGowan
Soul Shiners, vol. 3
2023
Photocopied zine, edition of 20
8.5 x 5.5 inches

In this body of work, McGowan pays tribute to all the victims of the criminal abuse of David Berg (aka Moses David) and Karen Zerby (who is currently leader of what is now called The Family International). Images in the Soul Shiners series are sourced from Mo Letters and True Komix, published by the Children of God cult in the 1970s and 80s and used to “litness” to potential converts and control COG



Don Fodness
The FM Coumpound
2021 – 2023
Documentation of happening at Airbnb
Dimensions vary

Artist Don Fodness created an alternate reality for unassuming Airbnb guests who booked a home owned by the mysterious and entirely fictional character of Gerhardt Donatello. Guests at the property never knew they were experiencing an art intervention, which featured an elaborate basement shrine to dearly departed artist Brick Suede, another fictional character Fodness created.



Ashley Eliza Williams
Restless Beings (Radiant Green)
2022
Oil paint on paper
29 x 20 inches

Courtesy K Contemporary



Ashley Eliza Williams
Restless Beings (Paynes Grey and Cadmium)
2022
Oil paint on paper
29 x 20 inches

Courtesy K Contemporary



Ashley Eliza Williams
Restless Beings (Alizarin Orange)
2022
Oil paint on paper
29 x 20 inches

Courtesy K Contemporary



Xi Zhang
The Stamps
2022
Acrylic on canvas
46 x 40 inches



Julia Klein

The Place of Sculpture in Daily Life 1 - 3

2020

Clay, wire, plastic, resin

Dimensions vary

Artist Julia Klein used fragments from her sculpture studio to create these works inspired partly by the Victorian era cult of domesticity observed in much of Western Europe and the United States. The age's emphasis on home and family life, coupled with the dawning of the industrial era, resulted in the rise of mass produced decorative objects sold to homemakers who wanted to define their space and social class.



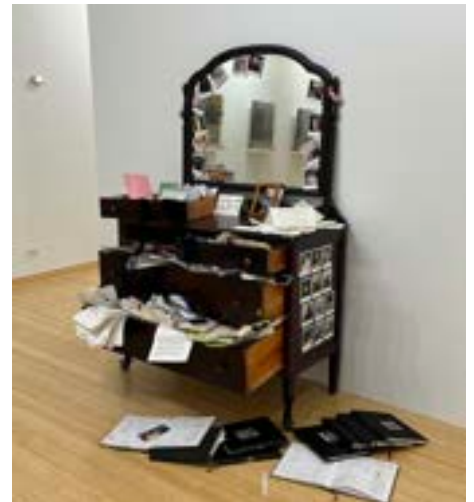
Julie Puma

Junk Drawer

2023

Installation with dresser, polaroids, expired passports, diaries

68 x 60 x 42 inches



Summer Ventis

sky cloud/ground cloud

2020/2023

Projection and zine

Dimensions variable



E.C. Comstock

Precondition

2023

Ceramic, waxed fabric, plaster refuse, pvc tubes, flexible duct

12 x 9.5 x 17 inches



Karen Dana Cohen

Happening

2022

Graphite on Paper

18 x 26 inches



Karen Dana Cohen

Dislocation

2023

graphite and watercolor on paper

30 x 40 inches



Lynné Bowman Cravens

Main Bedroom / Brucie, Brady, and Lynné

2017

Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood

24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



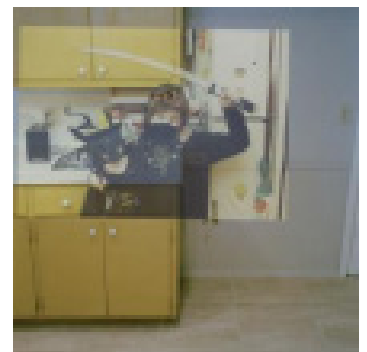
Lynné Bowman Cravens
Entry Hall / Lynné
2017

Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood
24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



Lynné Bowman Cravens
Kitchen/Brady and Lynné
2017

Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood
24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



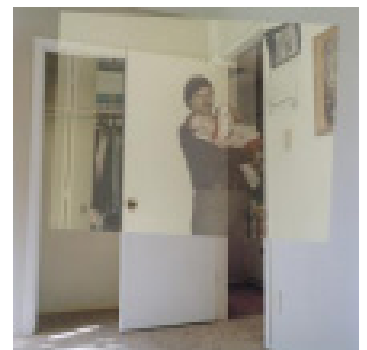
Lynné Bowman Cravens
Patio / Oscar
2017

Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood
24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



Lynné Bowman Cravens
Brady's Bedroom / Bruce and Lynné
2017

Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood
24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



Lynné Bowman Cravens
Lynné's Bedroom / Lynné
2017
Inkjet print on paper and acetate, acrylic, and wood
24.5 x 23 x 3.5 inches



Zehra Khan
Becoming Rock
2018
Recording of performance with
acrylic paint and seashell
2 minutes 46 seconds



Zehra Khan
Tethered
2018
Recording of performance with found object
1 minute 36 seconds



D. Dominick Lombardi
CCWSI 136
2023
acrylic, collage, previously painted canvas from 1974
40 x 30 inches



D. Dominick Lombardi
CCWSI 140
2023
Acrylic, collage, previously painted canvas from 1975
12 x 9 inches



D. Dominick Lombardi
CCWSI 137
2023
Acrylic, collage, previously painted canvas from 1975
24 x 18 inches



Theresa Anderson
placeholder/ all colors/ all touch
2017-2023
a wooden shelf hung at the height of my mantle, disassembled
frame with pantyhose (worn), part of a speaker-stand with cast
silicone tubing, sock darning tool used as a casting prop, remnant
of an old chair that broke when you stood on it, the inside form/
structure of a sack sculpture pulled out and saved from discard,
a wood wedge my father used with his workbench/vise filled with
pillow soft foam, one of my grandfather's bobbin racks with an
array of cast silicone rubber knobs
49 x 48 x 9 inches



Holly Cahill
Piercing the Storm
2022
acrylic on canvas, velvet
58 x 84 inches



Debra Kayes
Armor
2017
Mixed media on paper mounted to wood
Dimensions vary



Jaclyn Jacunski
Intuitions of Geometry
2023
Aluminum chain-link fence, laser cut plastic, jump rings
86 x 60 inches

Jaclyn Jacunski engages the intersections of the aesthetic and the political by created work about contested urban spaces. Known for using materials scavenged from building sites, often in gentrifying neighborhoods, Jacunski calls attention to neighborhood landscapes as expressions of a lived experience. Typically, her fence sculptures are created and staged in the same urban environments that inspired them, awaiting passersby.



Matthew Harris
Hushed Doubts
2023
Urethane and acrylic on wooden panel
20 x 16 x 2 inches



Ian Fisher
Atmosphere no.150 (Line Painting)
2022
Oil on canvas
66 x 60 inches



Tobias Fike
Constellation Puppis
2016
Solar burned canvas
24 in. x 24 inches



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