

JACK HANLEY GALLERY

AMY YAO

Come to My Opening!

May 1st - May 28th, 2010

Opening Reception: Sunday, May 9th 6-9pm

The Jack Hanley Gallery, New York, is pleased to present, *Come to My Opening!*, a solo exhibition of work by Amy Yao. The exhibition will be comprised of sculpture, painting, photography, performance, and installation.



Door-to-Door, like a Mary Kay sales-person selling make-up out of Tupperware. This is America. Today, we train kids to play safe on the playground and this playground is everywhere! Tomorrow they risk their necks in the game of life: busy at work in the factory that's just about to shut its door- floors swept for the last time, one final meal in the grayish cubicle, one more lipstick application on that greenish pallor face in the bathroom beneath a compact fluorescent that will live on another 24 years. If you play it safe, you won't get hurt, or is it the other way around? For some it never makes a difference either way...

By coyly implicating the obvious, *Come to My Opening!* constructs a new political framework for our psychological entrances and exits: free standing doors become invitations to both interior and exterior spaces, wood dowels adorned with enigmatic phrases hang as slippery landscapes, and yellow banana and green cucumber fixtures are illuminated in a way that interrogates assumptions and distorts our sense of direction.

Yao layers absurdities with a unique "trial by trial" method and deftly employs a humor that draws from the overstated. Her works, often constructed from mass-produced prefabricated materials, slice the space between us and the uncertainties of the world they potentially open to reveal. Acting as a threshold, they teeter on the fine line between "accurate depictions" of emotive states and those that go "over the edge," into surplus.

All in all, Yao's solo exhibition forgoes the desire for continuity and metamorphoses the white walled space into an atmosphere where refigured objects command emotion and provide alternative structures for us to enter and exit; experience safety and insecurity; believe in something and nothing.

The run of the show will be accompanied by a series of performances:

May 9th at 4pm: Amy Yao with Jacob Robichaux in conjunction with New York Gallery Week

May 23rd: Tyson Reeder

May 28th: Yemenwed

For more information or images please contact Katie Schetlick at 646 918 6824/ Katie@jckhanley.com

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