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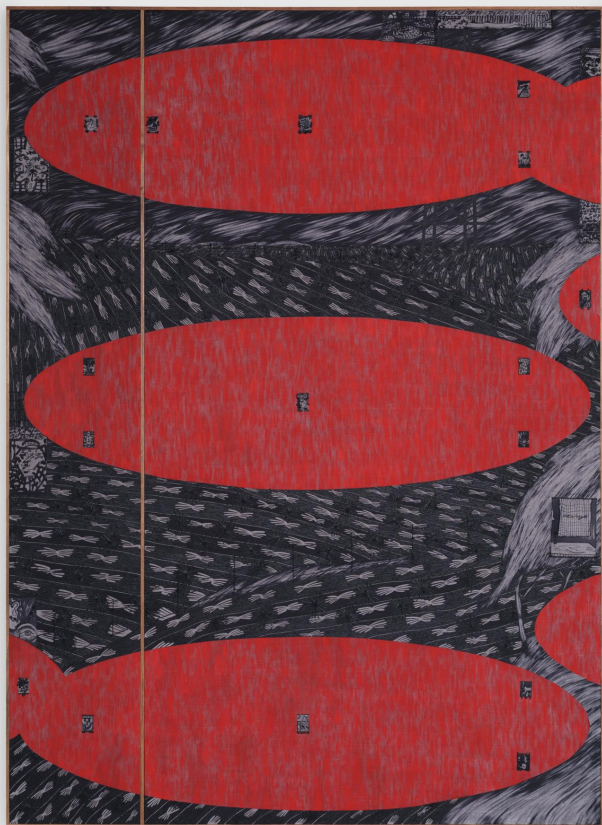
***Acre Eaters***

*Emma CC Cook*

May 16 - June 22, 2024



**Emma CC Cook**  
*Chisel plow*, 2024  
Oil, acrylic, upholstery, walnut artist frame  
47.5 x 51.5 in  
120.7 x 130.8 cm



**Emma CC Cook**

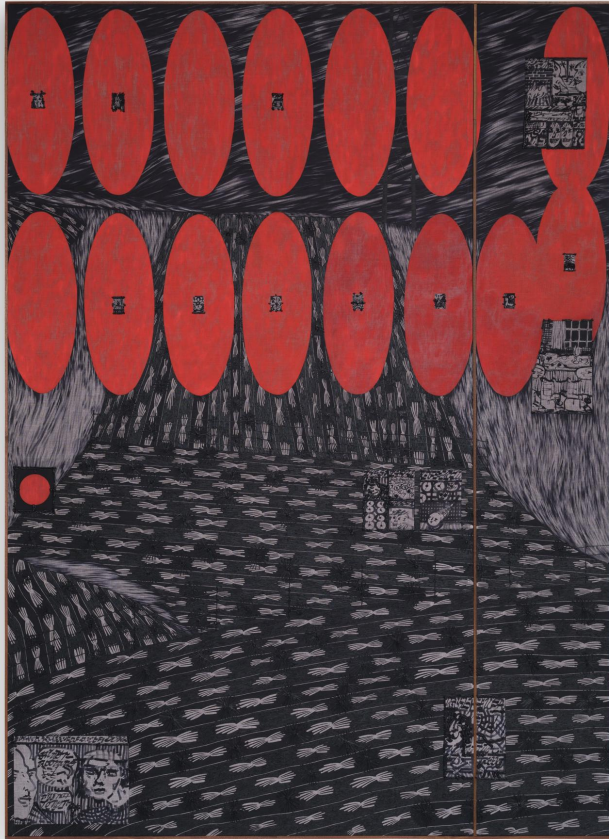
*The industrialist I*, 2024

Oil, acrylic, upholstery,

walnut artist frame

55 x 75.5 in

139.7 x 191.7 cm



**Emma CC Cook**

*The industrialist II*, 2024

Oil, acrylic, upholstery,

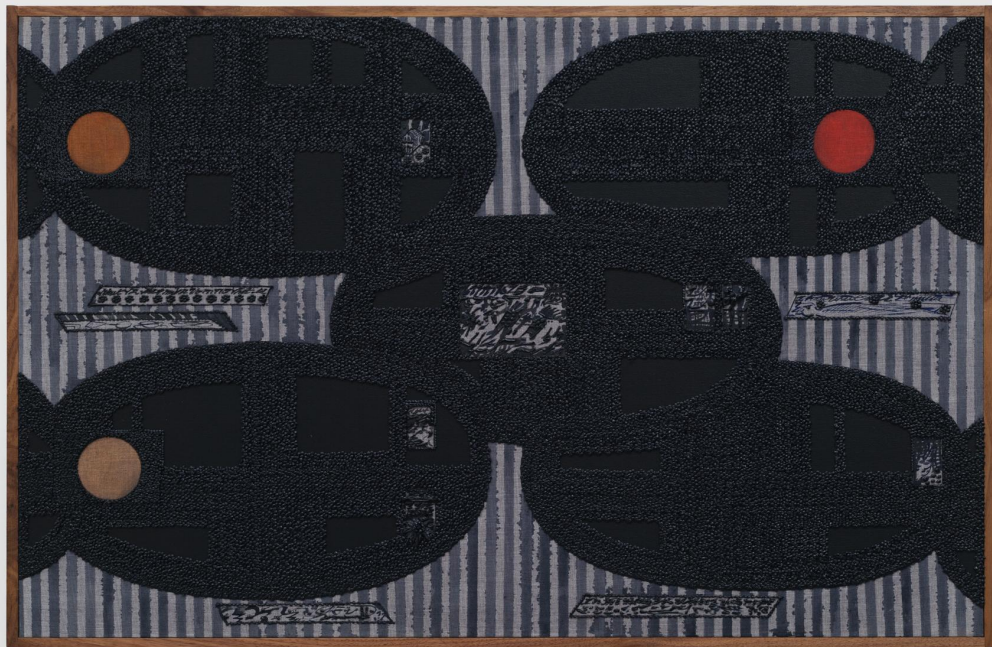
walnut artist frame

55 x 75.5 in

139.7 x 191.7 cm



**Emma CC Cook**  
*Waterwheel, 2024*  
Oil, acrylic, upholstery,  
walnut artist frame  
97 x 75.5 in  
246.4 x 191.7 cm



**Emma CC Cook**

*Dudley Do-Right, 2024*

Oil, acrylic, upholstery,  
walnut artist frame

28.5 x 18.5 in

72.9 x 47 cm

## Press Release

**Title**

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**Artist**

Emma cc Cook

**Dates**

May. 16 - Jun. 22 , 2024

**Opening**

May 16, 6-8 pm

**Location**

136 Baxter Street New York, NY 10013

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In Emma cc Cook's exhibition, *Acre Eaters*, we are beckoned into a realm where artistry meets agricultural allegory, unveiling a haunting narrative of rural America's struggle against industrialization's relentless advance. Through a meticulous blend of systematic precision and emotive storytelling, Cook illuminates the profound tension between humanity and nature, drawing from her own upbringing to evoke a landscape scarred by the shadows of progress.

Emma cc Cook has a mathematical process of composing that flows in accordance with agricultural narratives. We see her vision of horror in regards to the control of the natural world. Through technological acceleration the populus has become increasingly distanced from the means of production of our food. Machines replace labor for aging populations - the "acre eater" replaced the mule just as the city replaced the farm. It is in these flashbacks to her past with the midwest where her stretched and warped fields of oil paint adeptly weave a tale that explores the intricacies of American history and the shared recollections ingrained within it. Cook's paintings diverge from conventional landscapes; fragments of memory dance across the canvas, disrupting the uniformity of agricultural vistas, and imbuing each piece with a balanced disarray.

Cook's portrayal of a mechanical America immerses the viewer in a silent pressure. Set within obsidian steel or deep mahogany frames, the works hint at a bleak future, echoing fading craft traditions and eroding notions of self-sufficiency. Through these precisely trimmed apertures, meticulously groomed expanses of pale terrain sweep past and we become struck with an unsettling future of tragedy. We start to understand that America's desire for efficiency characterizes capitalism's tendency towards accelerationism and the pursuit of superabundance through the misuse of earth's natural resources.

## **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

**Emma cc Cook** (b.1989) Born in Minneapolis, Lives in Los Angeles, CA

Graduated from University of Minnesota in 2010 with a BFA in painting and studied classical realism at the Angel Academy in Florence, Italy. Select residencies include New York School of the Arts at Vytlacil, NY and Campos de Gutierrez in Medellin, Colombia.

Cook is a recipient of the MSAB grant, the Carter Prize in Painting and the Gay M. Grossman Memorial Scholarship.