

PAINTED // CURATED BY TYSON REEDER

Liz Craft / Pentti Monkkonen
Ben Stone / Geoffrey Todd Smith
Michael Rea / Samantha Bittman
Sara Clendening / Eric Wesley
Rachel Niffenegger / Michael Hunter
Amy Yao / Allison Heape
Stephanie Brooks / Jim Lutes
William J. O' Brien / Tim Bergstrom
Craig Butterworth / Dana Degiulio
Michael Rea / Gillian Riley
Ron Ewert / Chinatsu Ikeda
Liam Neff / Andrew Greene
Stephanie Brooks / Andrew Falkowski
Mckeever Donovan / Jason Preker
Chris Bradley / William Sieruta
Amber Renaye / Josh Reames

Reception: Saturday, December 10th, 2011

Exhibition: December 10th - January 15th 2012

Milwaukee, WI – What happens when a precious object is painted?

According to Antiques Roadshow, the object is ruined. Imagine the bummer of painting a beautiful wood floor black, or a gold chain brown. The sadness and anger you feel will prepare you for this show. Where does this anxiety originate?

We celebrate Greek and Roman statuary for its purity, with the whiteness of the marble equating to a certain civilized restraint, a commitment to form over surface cosmetics. Yet a closer reading of antiquity reveals a garish technicolor world of pink skin, blue eyes, and orange hair.

Can you handle the truth?

Clement Greenberg clearly couldn't when he scraped the paint off David Smith's steel sculptures, denouncing color as "non-essential" to the work. Nor could Beavis when Butthead sniffed a can of thinner and painted a cat blue. (Season 2, Episode 9).

In this exhibition, 15 unique objects have been generated from pairing sculptors with painters – one artist makes an object, the other paints the surface. Approaches range from abstract – as with Jim Lutes' nuanced egg-tempera brushwork on a wooden Stephanie Brooks sculpture, to the surrealist specificity of Michael Rea's hi-hat obsessively ornamented with black and white patterns by Samantha Bittman.

When surveying the damage of these collisions, the mind wanders away from the art historical canon towards the less rarified sensation of coming across paint in everyday life – on a denim jacket, a duck decoy, a fire hydrant or a finger nail. Simple forms get dressed-up and tricked-out, or flash gets muted with monochromatic sludge.

The Green Gallery

1500 N Farwell Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

front gallery (starting at the door from right to left):

Ben Stone and Geoffrey Todd Smith

Flummoxing the Lummox, 2011

wooden stand, metal, ink and gesso on polystyrene

Stephanie Brooks and Andrew Falkowski

Untitled, 2011

mdf board, acrylic

Stephanie Brooks and Jim Lutes

Untitled, 2011

mdf board, egg tempera

Chris Bradley and William Sieruta

Creamcatcher, 2011

steel, aluminum, acrylic

Michael Rea and Samantha Bittman

Age of Consent, 2011

wood, acrylic

Sara Clendening and Eric Wesley

Designed by Chance, 2011

plaster, cardboard, paint and paper

Craig Butterworth and Dana Degiulio

Nameless. Drip., 2011

wood, acrylic, enamel, spray-paint, plexi and traffic cone

Liz Craft and Pentti Monkkonen

Bisectional, 2011

epoxy, cardboard, urethane paint

William J. O'Brien and Tim Bergstorm

Small Favors Super Slough, 2011

wood, glue, acrylic

Mckeever Donovan and Jason Preker

Untitled, 2011

wood, airbrush

Ron Ewert and Chinatsu Ikeda

Pet Steps, 2011

wood, oil, wheels, monitor

Back gallery (from right to left):

Rachel Niffenegger and Michael Hunter

Untitled (Black Head), 2011

wood, string, polystyrene, plaster, concrete dust, spray-paint, paint

Amy Yao and Alison Heape

Untitled, 2011

wooden dowel, acrylic paint

Amber Renaye and Josh Reames

Broom, 2011

broom, acrylic paint, ceiling

Liam Neff and Andrew Greene

The Misanthrope, 2011

oil, acrylic, plaster, steel, wood, found object

Michael Rea and Gillian Riley

Gun, 2011

wood, acrylic paint