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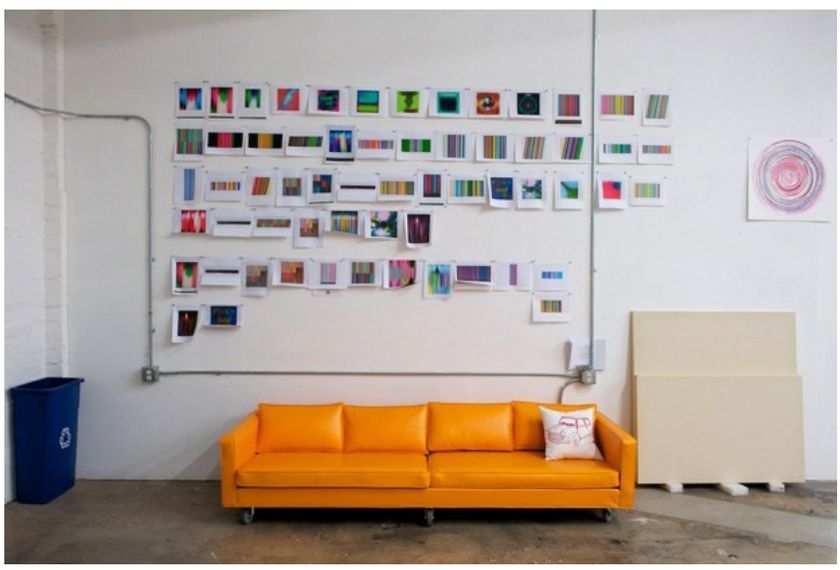
READ — DESIGN

NEW WORK FROM TIM BAVINGTON

WE VISIT THE LAS VEGAS-BASED PAINTER'S STUDIO AND LEARN ABOUT HIS UPCOMING PROJECTS AND GALLERY SHOW

Josh Rubin 9 January 2012



Drawing inspiration from guitar riffs and heavy beats, Las Vegas-based painter Tim Bavington translates melodies from ear to eye with his vibrant works. As long time supporters of Bavington, we jumped at the chance to stop by his studio on a recent trip to the city of sin. Here we got some insight into his production process and learned more about an upcoming installation project and his next solo show at Los Angeles' Mark Moore Gallery.

To draw a parallel between music and his art, Bavington sees his creative process as similar to how a musician transforms sheet music into a performance. "I begin with a score or transcript which, on paper at least, seems to suggest strict instructions but becomes something completely different when interpreted." He describes the actual painting process as "a more intuitive and improvisational than they may appear."

To reduce waste and toxicity of overspray, Bavington sticks to working with acrylics, although he has sprayed oils, alkyds and auto paints in the past. Although his application style seems more impulsive, the canvas size and portions are much more calculated, "I typically make studies for a work in up to 24 color ways. Then I choose ones that appeal or interest me, for whatever reason. Canvas size and shape is usually related to the math of the composition."

While being in the studio was a privilege in itself, the true highlight was learning about his latest up-and-coming sculptural work set to be unveiled mid-March 2012. For this project Bavington will translate the musically inspired energy from his paintings into the third dimension on a significantly larger scale.

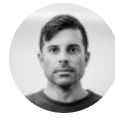
This singular transition from canvas to steel will culminate with an 80 foot long, 28 foot high installation to be located in the park adjacent to Las Vegas' new Smith Center for the Performing Arts—which is set to open doors around the same time as Bavington's installation will be finished.

At this point the project is still in the development stages, with a significant amount of time spent adapting to the new medium and adjusting designs. Unlike his paintings where Bavington may complete a piece in just a few weeks, the mammoth steel rods require months to be painted and assembled.

Coincidentally Bavington will be back once again at the Mark More Gallery in Los Angelas for his sixth solo show “Heart Above Head.” Opening 16 January 2012, the exhibition will present a recent collection of eight new compositions.

Keep an eye on Tim Bavington’s site in the coming months for updates on his upcoming Los Angeles gallery showing and Las Vegas installation opening.

JOSH RUBIN VIEW POSTS



Josh Rubin is a photographer, interaction designer, entrepreneur and the co-founder and Executive Creative Director of COOL HUNTING. He's a bit of an urban hippie, obsessed with most things Japanese, a Sealyham Terrier lover and very food motivated.

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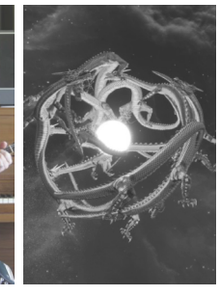

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UPSIDE-DOWN ICE FISHING, WHERE TO GO SKINNY DIPPING AND A ROOM EXPLODED WITH STICKERS—HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEB THIS WEEK

1. Skittish Tree

Bringing dynamic visual evidence of the impact of the sounds we make, the sound-reactive projection, Skittish Tree, offers a multi-sensory experience in the storefront of JS55 on Clinton Street in New York City. While soft sounds caused the tree to sway languidly side-by-side, loud noises—like, as we see in the video, a child's giddy screeching—shake the limbs until they fall off in the "wind".

2. Maurice Sendak

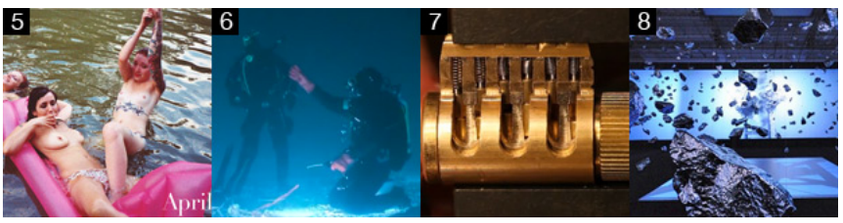
If you weren't already in love with Maurice Sendak from his masterful work, Where the Wild Things Are, you're likely to fall once you watch his interview at home. Speaking on the need for ferocity and irreverence in art, and pausing, sweetly, to pet his dog, the 89-year-old illustrator shares his answer to requests over the years to do a WTWA sequel —"I'm not a whore"—while rejecting common notions of money and fame in the creative world.

3. Staple Design for Case Mate

Fit for design geeks and ganguro fashionistas alike, this pigeon-themed iPhone case comes complete with silicone wing embellishments for ergonomics and a dangling pigeon foot charm for flair. Currently only available in-store at Reed Space in NYC, the case keeps in line with Staple Design's affection for all things pigeon.

4. Short Order Designer Notepads

Once reserved for diner waitresses sporting up-dos, this alternative notebook allows you to categorically record the demands of your next client. They uniquely numbered pages allow you to create and action item list for the project with a lateral column to check items off the list. For designers from designer Adam Oreste.



5. The Skinny Dipping Report

In case you were looking for a resource outlining the best places around the globe to lose your clothes and take a dive, the 2012 Skinny Dipping Report has arrived. The report, which takes the form of a calendar, has detailed info on some great spots to wade in the nude, along with the photographic spreads to back them up.

6. Upside-Down Ice Fishing

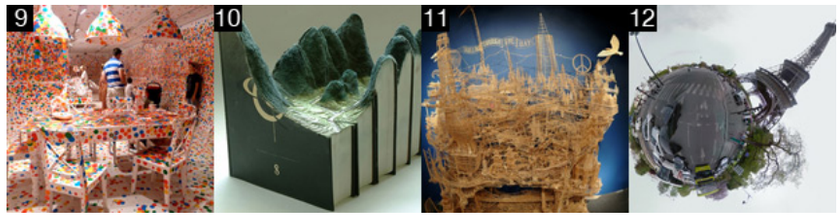
In this bizarrely disorienting video J. Mettälä and some friends trekked into the wacky world under the surface of a frozen lake in Finland. The friends claim they were "fishing" but it looks more like they were having a ball pulling off a variety of gags which included a balloon, a wheel barrow and a sled.

7. Schuyler Towne

The thieves and geeks out there have a new guru in Schuyler Towne, who has taken to the Internet to explain the nifty inner workings of locks and master locks, including the key steps in picking them, with a series of video tutorials.

8. My Personal Universe

Curious to discover what the the Big Bang most likely looked like, Zhan Wang blew up a massive boulder from the suburbs of Shandong and captured the result on six HD cameras recording at 2,000 FPS. The Chinese sculptor then used his renderings to recreate the scene moments after using mirrored stainless steel in an interactive studio space.



9. The Obliteration Room

This fantastic installation at the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art by artist Yayoi Kusama takes interactive art to a whole new level. Starting with a blank white room the artist invited children to take part using a massive collection of colored dot stickers. The result is a multi-colored wonderland of childish joy.

10. Encyclopedic Landscapes

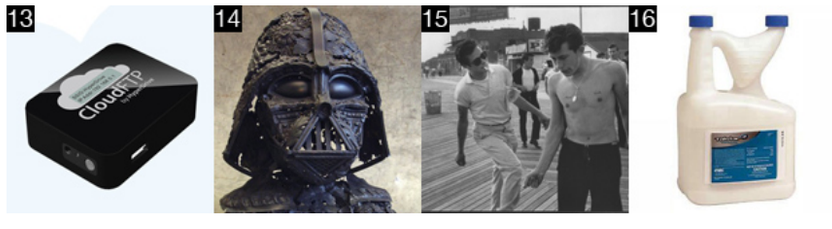
An apparent commentary on the eroding nature of underutilized knowledge, Guy Laramee has taken old volumes and created ranges of paginated land in a new sculpture series. What start as massive bluffs decay into ranges, crevices before ultimately flattening out into empty plains.

11. Rolling through the Bay

The hard-won result of 35 years, 100,000 toothpicks and an estimated 3,000 hours, this fantasy rendering of San Francisco is a sight to behold. With several “tours” available, the mass is navigable only by ping pong balls that explore all the sights including ocean beach, the Golden Gate Bridge and the rainbow-colored Castro district.

12. Street View Stereographic

Continuing Google’s quest for world domination, the new app lets users create their own planet from any Google Street View images. From the Taj Mahal to your local neighborhood, streetscapes are imposed onto a fantastical space-view photograph.



13. Cloud FTP

One of the most stand-out kickstarter projects in recent months is Cloud FTP, a portable device that connects to any USB device for online sharing through an FTP client. Working with all iOS and Android devices, the affordable storage solution is currently accessed through a rudimentary browser, though it works well with apps set up to stream media through FTP clients.

14. Salvaged Darth Vader Helmet

Apparently Bellino Alain had some extra antique fixtures lying around and needed a project. The result is a very accurate looking Darth Vader sculpture, which maintains the famous Sith lord's intimidation factor while adding a little floral flair.

15. The Jokers

A series by photographer Bruce Davidson has resurfaced depicting a young gang of boys in 1959 Brooklyn. "The Jokers" personify the now-legendary look of the era, and charmingly reinforce the timelessness of a rebel youth—and stake their claim on pioneering the modern idea of it—with greaser haircuts, tattoo showboating and lots of girls.

16. Talstar Bottle

The bottle for Talstar's insecticide may look funky but it's form is much more considered than one might think. Designed to make measuring the appropriate amount of bug poison more efficient, the bottle uses a pressure system that allows the contents to be doled out with a squeeze.

CH EDITORS VIEW POSTS

Sometimes the entire NYC-based editorial team gets in on a story

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READ—STYLE

STANDARD GOODS

OUR INTERVIEW WITH GARRETT COLTON
ON THE NEW GUEST BUYER SERIES

Nestled among the nail salons, kosher bakeries and breakfast joints on Beverly Boulevard in Los Angeles, Garrett Colton has set up St&ndard Goods, a general store for shoppers who love high-quality goods with clean design. Step inside the small shop and the eye is immediately drawn to Colton's favorite paintings of two brothers clad in suit and tie. Colton found these paintings, dated 1960, at an Oklahoma City garage sale. Though he has had many offers, these dapper and slightly creepy gents set the tone for the shop and are not for sale.

Offerings include Sierra Designs parkas, vintage belts, MAKR wallets and iPad cases, West Sweet Preserves, Tourne ceramic vessels, skateboard decks and much more. A shelf of items features picks from the St&ndard Goods' inaugural Guest Buyer Series, which kicks off with pieces picked by photographer Brian Ferry, from a vintage L.L. Bean shirt to a Minot 35 GT Analog Camera. We asked Colton to tell us about his new store, the St&ndard Goods Guest Buyer Series and upcoming collaborations.

What are three words that would best describe St&ndard Goods?

Timeless, basic, clean.

How did spelling standard with an ampersand come about?

My friend Carlos Morera works at Commune Design here in LA and is one of the most creative people I have ever met. I asked him to come up with some logos and what not for the store. When he added the “&” I knew it was right.

How did the idea for the Guest Buyer Series come about?

This idea is somewhat of a hybrid of a couple things. I really loved the idea of the Selby and going into various creative people’s homes, but I also liked the idea of GQ’s 10 Essentials with designers. The Guest Buyer Series is something kind of in the middle. When I worked at Band of Outsiders, I would sometimes go the flea market with my boss to pick out stuff for his home. The consumer in me would think, what if _____ was here shopping. What would he/she buy?

When did you first meet Brian Ferry? How did he approach his set of items?

I first met Brian in late December in New York. He found some things during his time in London and he also found some things in New York. I wanted him to pick out things that he gravitated to and I think Brian has great style and taste and didn’t need to guide him on what to buy. It’s really about letting the guest buyer pick out what they want. It’s not me pointing, “Hey, buy this.” Brian picked out things that he would really buy. He sent me an email hesitating on sending me this stuff because he wanted to keep it. That’s when I knew that he picked out great stuff.

Brian Ferry is including a photograph of the item with the purchase. Bonus art with purchase seems like an idea that should happen more often. Thoughts?

Brian came up with this idea so I can't take full credit, but I loved it and knew it was a brilliant idea. Brian has a loyal following and we wanted to give those who buy one of his pick's a special something. The fun thing about the Guest Buyer Series is really making each one unique. With Brian's photography, we wanted to do something extra. The one thing I have really enjoyed the most about the GBS is that we are really telling a story. Christine Brown directs, edits, and produces the video, which interviews the guest buyer. We show pictures and footage of the buyer, the products, why they bought each item. Whenever I buy something, I always like to hear a good story behind an item, if there is one.

What other projects and collaborations are coming up at St&ndard Goods?

We've got some great things in the works. I'm currently making some more things with some really talented people. We are doing a collaboration with RTH that I am really excited about. That will hit both of our shops in mid February. We have some more great people lined up for the guest buyer series. Lastly, a show with Brian Ferry at our shop that will happen in late spring.

Standard Goods

7151 Beverly Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90036

JULIE WOLFSON

VIEW POSTS

Julie Wolfson is a writer and arts educator living in Los Angeles. She enjoys traveling around the globe searching for delicious cups of coffee.

POSTED IN STYLE
INTERVIEWS, RETAIL, STORES, VINTAGES

READ—FOOD + DRINK

COFFEE COMMON NYC POP UP

CAFFEINE-DRIVEN COLLABORATION AT A STARTUP STORE

As demand for high-quality coffee gains force, the myriad varietals and methods for roasting and brewing come to light with a range that can be intimidating for the average connoisseur.

Aiming to marry the sophistication of coffee drinking with the accessibility it needs to reach its growing audience, A Startup Store will host Coffee Common for its first public event in the U.S., 19-22 January 2012.

In the spirit of its core value of collaboration—between farmers and growers, roasters and baristas—Coffee Common will team up with the story-based retail concept shop in Chelsea before its official opening in February. For three days, and for only $5 a pop, the event will bring together key vendors to demonstrate novel methods in creating the perfect brew, showcasing how to use the best equipment. Besides the demos and informative, direct Q&A opportunities with baristas, attendees will come away hopped up on some of the world's finest brews being served throughout.

The two parties came together when Startup Store founder Rachel Schectman saw "COMMON: Collaboration is the new Competition" in action at TED and "fell in love." She says, "Our retail experience is about bringing content, community and commerce to life through rotating story based exhibitions, it was a perfect match before we emerge from beta."

They're bringing together representatives from places like Joe, RBC and Cafe Grumpy, as well as champion baristas Ben Kaminsky from Ritual Coffee in San Francisco, Anthony Benda from Cafe Myriade in Montreal, Trevor Corlett from Madcap Coffee in Michigan and more. Plus, the board is made up of National and World Barista Champions and Judges, and for the event, Coffee Common has partnered with Breville on appliance giveaways. For those who can't make it to NYC, A Startup Store will be broadcasting the event in various Google+ hangouts.

Tickets are available for $5 online or at the door. For full event hours, visit Coffee Common online.

KELLY O'REILLY

VIEW POSTS

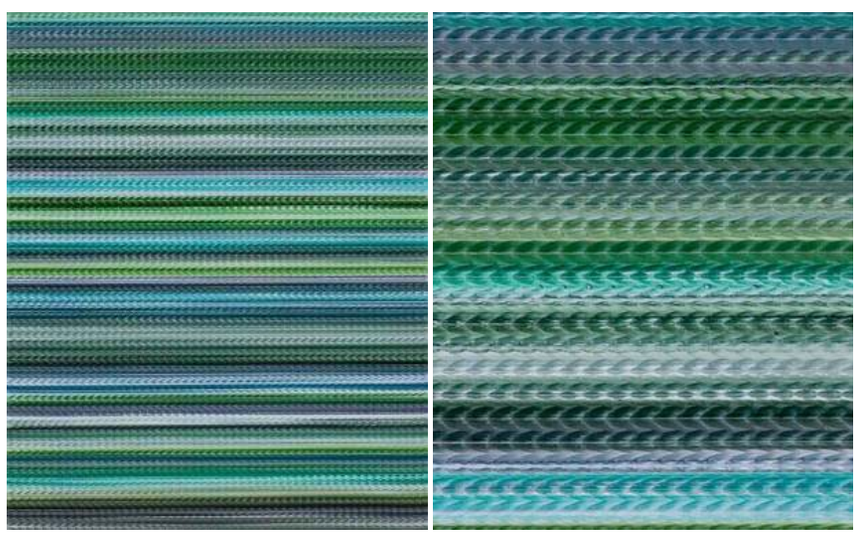
A member of the global COOL HUNTING network of contributors.

POSTED IN FOOD + DRINK
BREWING, COFFEE, COLLABORATION, EDUCATION, POP-UP

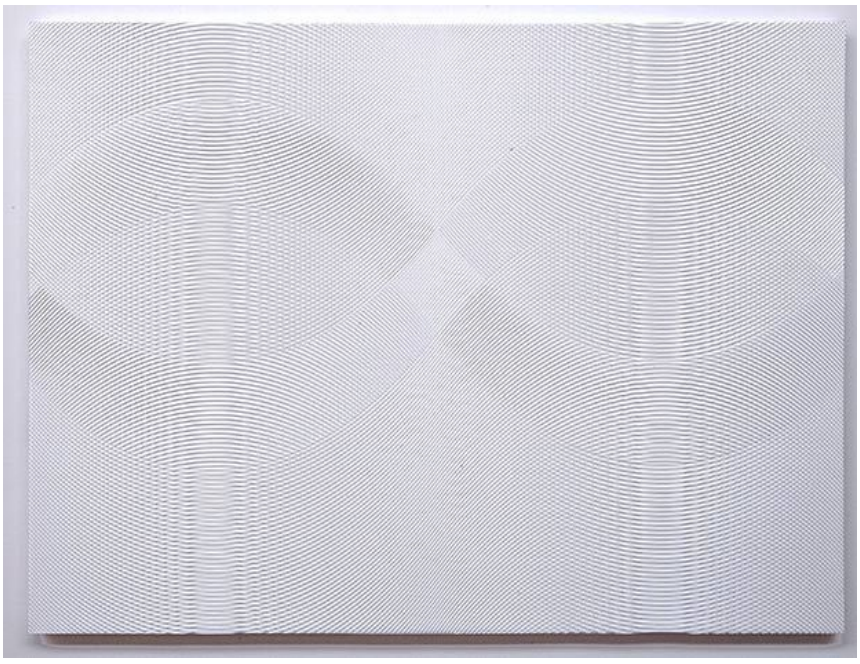
READ—CULTURE

XIE MOLIN

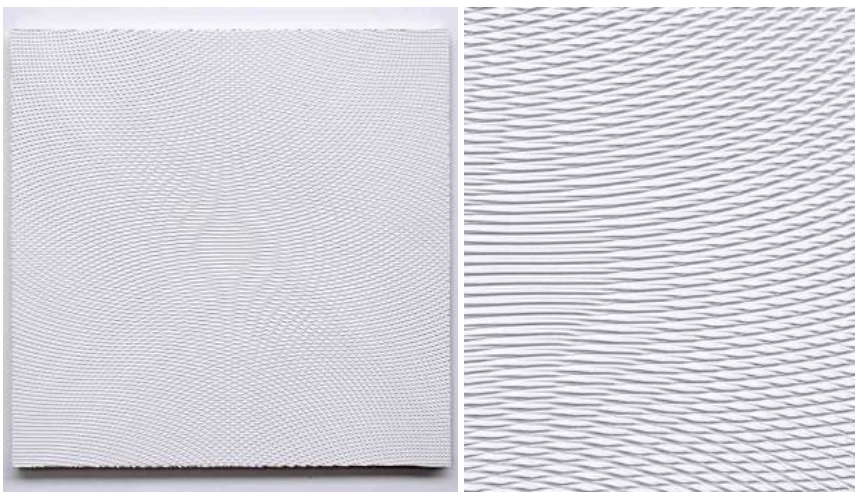
MACHINE MODIFICATIONS, STUDIES IN WHITE AND ENDORSING ABSTRACTION IN BEIJING



One of the highlights of a recent trip to Beijing was discovering the work of Xie Molin, a locally based artist who is currently part of the “Beijing Voice” group show at Pace Gallery Beijing. Xie’s process involves three phases, which begins with the artist developing the pattern for the piece on a computer. Xie then uses a machine that he designed himself to trace the movement of his pattern on a canvas using a brush and paint before the final step, which involves the application of pigment by hand, a process the artist has not yet recreated using a machine. The resulting artwork combines mesmerizing texture with a simplicity that contradicts the intensely technical process. Importantly, each piece is one of a kind—the tech is not leveraged to create multiple copies of the same work.



Though mechanical processes in art occasionally garner criticism from purists, Xie's work integrates his artist-adapted technology instead of relying on it to do the work in his place. By fashioning his own tailor-made machine, Xie's made it an artistic appendage, giving him the freedom to achieve his vision. While the work certainly speaks to the alienation of people from materials, there is some pleasure that arises from the conflict between mechanical formality and artistic vision.



Molin received attention early in his career for the recreation and destruction of Jin Shangyi's well known "Tajik Bride." After finishing the work, Xie applied steady heat to the reverse, melting the aluminum on which he had painted. His anti-establishment ethos is clear from his tendency to embrace abstraction, something that we noticed a lot of in our travels through Beijing.

Xie Molin is a young artist we're keeping an eye on.

Pace Gallery

798 Art District, No.2

Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District

Beijing, China 100015

All images copyright Xie Molin, courtesy of the Pace Gallery Beijing.

EVAN ORENSTEN VIEW POSTS

Evan Orensten is interested in the intersections of COOL HUNTING's content categories, an accomplished cook, serviceable photographer and enthusiastic storyteller and globetrotter. He's the co-founder and Executive Editor of COOL HUNTING.

POSTED IN CULTURE
3D, ART EXHIBITIONS, ARTIST PROFILES, MACHINES

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