

RYAN LEE

RYAN LEE GALLERY LLC
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Project Space
David Dixon: Harvestings from Cathouse FUNeral
September 4-October 11, 2014
Opening: Thursday, September 4th, 6-8PM

"A potato farmer stands in front of his harvest of potatoes and says, 'These are my potatoes.' Well, they are no more his potatoes than these are my paintings. We are merely the locus where it happened." —Agnes Martin

RYAN LEE is pleased to announce *David Dixon: Harvestings from Cathouse FUNeral*, an installation of work completed over the last year that takes its impetus from Dixon's artist-run space in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The exhibition includes work "harvested" from his curatorial and artistic vision within Cathouse FUNeral, using materials and motifs from the gallery's past year of exhibition design to realize new, highly charged, referential objects.

Cathouse FUNeral is a unique space given its collaborative and additive nature. Housed in a former funeral home, this alternative "project space" is down the hall from Dixon's studio, and is bordered by several other working artists' studios, creating an intuitive, collaborative environment. One of Dixon's curatorial innovations is to keep exhibition design elements from past shows in present ones, which provides a formal and narrative continuity between shows and alleviates the return to a "neutral" white space. Another is the art pieces on view at RYAN LEE, which are made from the changing conditions of each exhibition. The space then becomes the producer, and Dixon merely the catalyst or "farmer". This speaks to the artist's interest in non-systematic processes and a succinct recognition of memory, history, relics, and labor.

The work on view comes from four distinctive exhibitions at Cathouse FUNeral: *Shrink It, Pink It; For the Love of Agnes and Barney; The Hunt; and Heroic Social Worker (dirty hands, clean money)*. References include Agnes Martin and Barnett Newman, the consequences of art labor, and the limits of the material world. The first instance of the space creating a work of art came during the interim between *Shrink It, Pink It* and *For the Love of Agnes and Barney*. While deinstalling *Shrink It, Pink It*, a two-by-four that had capped the end of a temporary pink wall emerged as a perfect Barnett Newman "zip," which was then exhibited in *For the Love of Agnes and Barney*. Since then, each show has produced art pieces. Other works on view include grey and pink horizontally striped gypsum board (*For the Love of Agnes and Barney*) and complex emotive assemblages that incorporate mirror, blood, arrows, and stained wood paneling (*The Hunt*).

Dixon (b. 1968, Philadelphia, PA) received his BFA from Parsons The New School for Design in 1992 and his MFA from Cornell University in 2010. His work has been exhibited in the US and Europe, including at Anthology Film Archives, New York, US; Biennale de Belleville, Paris, FR; Museum of Modern Art, New York, US; Printed Matter, New York, US; Sculpture Center, New York, US; The Kitchen, New York, US; and Velan, Turin, IT.

Concurrently on view is *Josh Dorman: Whorled*. Forthcoming exhibitions include work by Michael Mazur (1935-2009) and Joan Logue, both of which will be on view from October 16 through November 15, 2014.

Please contact Courtney Willis Blair at 212-397-0742 or courtney@ryanleegallery.com for further press inquiries.