

A. PEYTON HURT

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Artist Statement

Painting and drawing engage me. They are immediate, tactile and accessible. Observation of structure, horizon and object/ground are the subjects of my work. Line and heavy-handedness are pervasive.

The drawings are a discovery of working on transparent acetate over Xeroxed photos in order to selectively trace and "color-in" architectural archetypes. They hover between place and placelessness post a deconstructive and reconstructive process. The drawings reference the city; however, the resulting image is more about "mapping" the landscape and buildings.

The existential seems close at times; there is desperation to paint, furiously. At these points my work is extremely physical and demanding. Layers of wax, medium, and pigments are built up with heavy artillery, squeegees and trowels, over months. Two grounds or planes emerge divided.

When the object is presented it is decidedly animated and separate from the ground. Line and buttery slabs of paint are intentional and heavy-handed. New forms are rendered from a vocabulary of imagination, a thicker line, and stacked stripes that reference a flag. Humor, irony, static, 80's pop culture, dystopia or utopia, are presented through awkward narration and presentation. Perception and current trends advance to reconfigure the subject, the objects, even the hastily painted stripes over day-glow grounds.

Within my process physical forms fade into the void, re-emerge as symbols, or re-appear transformed post-synthesis. Past works have yielded mappings of the urban landscape or formalist voids. Current works are fashionable references to 80's pop culture and painting trends.