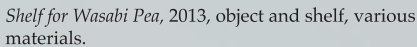




Please use this space for stamps





The shelf is sublime: so simple, so empty, waiting in anticipation for the arrival of inhabitants, witnessing their constant rearrangement, renewal and exchange. Its vacancy can suggest exciting possibilities of what may arrive, or tell of an abandonment of what was once but now long gone. The emptiness of an expectant shelf summons anticipation. It deserves contemplation equal to its inhabitants. Together shelf and object can sometimes become small personal museums that some of us make for our everyday environments. The objects can become characters and the shelf, a landscape. Tokyo is a city full of these personal potential museum exhibits: in the action figure capitals of Akihabara and Nakano Broadway, to the candied coloured flotsam and jetsam of Harajuku.

During this residency at Youkobo Art Space I have created a group of four different collections, combining both collected and made objects, exhibited within shelf structures where the relationship between the contained and the mounted receptacle is democratic. Overlaid with these objects are my impressions of the broader, human scale urban environment of Japan, observing the wonderment of both the new, the old and the miniature found in a myriad of places. These objects are both completed works and developmental material. I have experimented with different ways of articulating my experiences of this residency in three-dimensional collage based works that imitate obscured collections of popular cultural merchandise to create new narratives in miniature landscapes.

棚は崇高である。非常に簡潔で空っぽであり、住人の到着を見越して待っては、絶え間ない並べ替えや更新、交換を目撃する。空の状態は、到来するものへのはらはらす可能性を示し、又、嘗てそこに在ったが今は去ったものの気ままさを語り得る。待ち受ける棚が空の状態は、何かへの予感を喚起し、そこでは、どの住人も等しく沈想するに値する。棚とオブジェが一緒になると、時に私たちの日常環境のための小さな個人的美術館となり得る。オブジェは登場人物に、棚は風景になれる。東京はこのような個人的で潜在的な美術館に溢れた街だ。アクション・フィギュア中心地の秋葉原や中野ブロードウェイから、キャンディ色したガラクトダラの原宿まで。

遊工房アートスペースでの滞在制作の間、4つの異なるコレクションを制作した。集めたものと作ったものを結合したオブジェを、装飾と抑制の関係が庶民的である棚の構造の中に配置し展示した。これらのオブジェは、広意義での人間スケールで感じた郊外環境の印象、新旧両方の驚くべきものや、無数の場所で見つけたミニチュアについての観察で上塗りされている。また、展示したオブジェは完成した作品であると同時に、発展途中の素材であり、滞在の経験を3Dコラージュ作品に明瞭に表現するための様々な方法を試した。ミニチュアの風景の中に新しい物語を紡ぐように、大衆文化の商品の隠れざるコレクションに、これらの作品を似せた。

Nicholas Bastin lives and works in Melbourne, Australia. He has a BA, Fine Arts (Honours), MA, Fine Arts and a PhD from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) Australia. Recent solo exhibitions include: 2012 *Sleepless Hero*, Craft Victoria. His work was included in the recent 2012 exhibition *Unexpected Pleasures*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Design Museum, London, United Kingdom. Group exhibitions include: 2012 *Transplantation, British and Australian Narrative Jewellery*, The National Centre for Craft and Design, Lincolnshire, United Kingdom. 2011 *Melbourne Boys*, Gallery Bilk, Canberra, 2010 *By Example, Australian Contemporary Jewellery*, The Museum of Arts & Crafts Itami, Itami, Japan, 2010 *Treasure Room: Australia: Schatzkammer – Australien*, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany, 2009 *Four Jewellers, Melbourne Australia*, Espace Solidor, Cagnes Sur Mer, France, Galerie Biró, Munich, Germany, 2009 *Melbourne Hollow Ware*, Gallery Marzee, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, 2008 *Fuse*, Jam Factory, Adelaide, 2007 *Beyond Metal: Contemporary Australian Jewellery and Hollowware*, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne; touring exhibition India, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, 2006 *The Cicely & Colin Rigg Contemporary Design Award 2006*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Nicholas currently holds a position as lecturer in Object based Design, School of Art, RMIT University, Melbourne.

MAIN IMAGE: *Studies in Shelving*, 2013, shelves and objects, various materials.

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Youkobo Art Space manages an Artist-In-Residence (AIR) program and a non-profit gallery for domestic and foreign artists, and also commit to supporting other AIR programs, to international exchanges and community activities through art, and to nurture young art workers. As a 'studio (kobo)' for 'you' (also means 'play' in Japanese), Youkobo aims to give many people opportunities for art and cultural experiences, by supporting artists' autonomous activities. An official member of the Art Residency Network (Worldwide Network of Artist Residences).

遊工房アトスペースは、国内外のアーティストが滞在制作するアーティスト・イン・レジデンス(AIR)と、作品を展示・発表する非営利ギャラリーを主軸に、AIRの支援・推進、アートを通した国際交流やコミュニティ活動、人材育成にも取り組んでいます。体験できる場を目指します。アーティストインレジデンス世界ネットワーク「遊」(あなた・遊)の「工房」として、アーティストの自律的な活動の支援と、多くの方が芸術文化を身近に感じられる場を創出することを目的としています。

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