

NATHANAEL FLINK – “FALLING INTO PLACE” – 2024 – VERONIQUE WANTZ GALLERY

Statement

Utilizing mostly found materials, fabrics, and supplies, I employ strategies of formal assemblage to evoke associations of mood and light. In the last ten years my work has become materially, textile assemblages comprised of cut apart fragments combined with various other fiber materials such as yarn, burlap, canvas, dropcloths or other substrate.

The pieces begin with recycled bolts of cloth often originating from furniture and connected with bright thread into collaged amalgamations.

Thematically my work is a reaction to two different kinds of worlds, the internal and the external. It is a tug of war lead by intuitive decisions. On the one hand the work is a response to events of American commercialism, throw away culture, or urban living. A study of superficiality of society, offering subtle challenges to cultural expectations.

On the flipside this work reveals relationships, intimate narratives, or memories. Through the lens of domestic experience, visceral elements of hue and contrast suggest vulnerability.

Seeking unexpected visual occurrences, sometimes searing, melancholic or brash, these works function as analogies to life situations. Specific textures and tones are referentially imbued with personal significance – be it a pattern reminiscent, a season, or a day in summer. There is an openness and a nostalgia which is conjured through a stitching together of shape, color and blurry dyed surfaces. My aesthetic vocabulary involves a searching for unobvious emotive movements. As Jean-Luc Marion writes ...to let burst into the scene much more than what one desires or wills.

Bio

Nathanael Flink is an artist based in Minnesota. He earned a BFA from the Minneapolis College of Art and Design in 1994. He has been a recipient of the Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship and the Knight Foundation Arts Challenge Grant. He has exhibited work nationally in New York, California, Vermont, and Wisconsin. He has held solo exhibitions in South Korea and Minnesota. His work is held in private collections in North America and Asia.