Josh Salim

My process is one of accumulation and removal—a cyclical evolution that begins with pouring paint on glass, capturing the effect, and reacting to its behavior. The unpredictable nature of paint on a static surface forms a changing, volatile space that I am most concerned within my work. This process has strong historical ties to the language of Abstract Expressionism, Action Painting, and works by Gerhard Richter and other contemporary artists. Richter’s additive and subtractive working methods, which build up cumulative layers of paint over time, inform the way I approach my imagery. My work also shows the influence of Bill Viola’s videos, particularly his use of slow motion, which changes the viewer’s perception by allowing the mind more time to process what is happening. Through stop-motion filming, I record the movement of paint and ink as it glides across a glass surface and use those initial images as the starting point for my videos. I work against the traditional aesthetics of paint and ink by digitally manipulating the raw footage. This intensifies the edges and has a flattening effect, evoking the language of animation. The stop-motion technique creates a rough and choppy quality, which counters the smooth movement of the liquid. By editing the source video I alter the sense of space and time and defy the natural gravitational pull of pouring paint. I use repetition and manipulate real time to change the viewer’s perception of the material, highlighting the motion of the ink rather than the ink itself.

Cover: Buckle Up!, video, 5:41 min.

EMIL AND TAMAR WEISS PRIZE IN THE CREATIVE ARTS

The Emil and Tamar Weiss Prize in the Creative Arts is awarded each year to a promising student or students majoring in Art & Art History, English, Music, or Theatre & Dance. Weiss Prize winners are selected on the basis of proposals submitted at the end of the junior year for a senior year creative project. Proposals are evaluated on a solid body of existing work, artistic vision, and the potential for advanced creative expression.

STUDIO ART FACULTY: Todd Arsenault, Andrew Bale, Anthony Cervino, Ward Davenny, Barbara Diduk

Image processing: Andrew Bale

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For What it's Worth, video, 3:41 min.

Buckle Up!, video, 5:41 min.

Hush, video, 8:27 min.