Haegue Yang Lacquer Paintings

1999 – ongoing

Barbara Wien gallery & art bookshop

Schöneberger Ufer 65 10785 Berlin +49 30 28385352 bw@barbarawien.de barbarawien.de

Lacquer Paintings

1999-ongoing

Lacquer paintings are made of wood varnish poured on wooden panels. The process of the lacquer layers is determined by various methods. On the one hand there are compositional elements that are decided by the artist, such as the choice of matt or gloss varnish, the thickness of the lacquer layer and the choice of objects that appear in the varnish layers. The lacquer paintings Sesame Summer-Harvest, Shiso Summer-Harvest, Sesame Summer-Harvest – thin und Sesame Summer-Harvest – thin dripping include sesame and Shiso leaves of plants growing on the balcony of the artist, means that they are from the artist's immediate environment. On the other hand the production of lacquer paintings is an open process because it requires a long drying period outdoors. Meanwhile dust, insects, hair and other objects fall and get sealed in the layers of varnish. Similarly, rain affects the work production, as raindrops cause an unevenness. The result is an unique texture on the varnish surface as you can see in Rain Gravity Mono I. Stored tilted or leaned against the wall due to space constrain, the lacquer paintings often experience changes of the surface, it leads to bulges or winkles – as you can see in Gravity Mono – Ikea Cupboard. Here the lacquer layers are mounted on a door of an Ikea cupboard that was left after a new kitchen has been built.

The lacquer paintings are not intended to pursue the notion of painting in a classical sense, however a pictorial quality is generated. Yang employs her own extraordinary and not media-related way of working. Her works often incorporate elements that are unfamiliar and distant to her, unless she refers to her own circumstances. For Yang this process is an appropriation of objects/circumstances by observing the domestic sphere, a kind of 'domestification' — which is reoccurring in the production of lacquer paintings. The not yet dried varnish surface records the influence of these alien yet neighboring or surrounding elements over the time, thus reflecting the environment, weather, season as well as location.





Soaring Seedlings 2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, found plants, artificial plants, wig, seeds, dust, insects, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, gefundene Pflanzen, künstliche Pflanzen, Perücke, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar $60 \times 60 \times 2 \text{ cm}$





Fuzzy Trunks 2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, found plant, printed paper, wig, seeds, dust, insects, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, gefundene Pflanze, bedrucktes Papier, Perücke, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar $70 \times 50 \times 2 \,\mathrm{cm}$





Velvet Vacuum Cosmic Salon

2019-2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, printed paper, found plant, seeds, dust, dirt, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, bedrucktes Papier, gefundene Pflanze, Samen, Staub, Schmutz, Haar 90 × 90 × 2 cm





Fern Vein

2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, found plants, wig, dust, insects, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, gefundene Pflanzen, Perücke, Staub, Insekten, Haar 35 × 25 × 2 cm





This is Not a Mustache

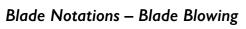
2023

Chipboard, wood varnish, wig, artificial plant, seeds, dust, insects, hair
Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Perücke, künstliche Pflanze, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar
35 × 25 × 2 cm









2019

Chipboard, wood varnish, blades, seeds, dust, insect, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Klingen, Samen, Staub, Insekten, Haar 70 × 25 × 2 cm







2019

Chipboard, wood varnish, blades, found plants, dust, hair Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Klingen, gefundene Pflanzen, Staub, Haar 35 × 25 × 2.4 cm







Old Twosome Crops – Sesame and Shiso

2016

Chipboard, wood varnish, sesame leaves, shiso leaves Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Sesamblätter, Shisoblätter 100 × 60 cm





Crocodile Tears in Riverside Woods

2016 Chipboard, wood varnish, sesame leaves, graph paper Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Sesamblätter, Millimeterpapier 30 × 100 cm





Chipboard, wood varnish, Shiso leaves Spanplatte, Holzklarlack, Shisoblätter 125 × 90 cm





Rain Gravity Mono I

Chipboard, wood varnish Spanplatte, Holzklarlack 125 × 90 cm

