

In addressing this work, it might be constructive to begin by laying out a well-trodden and highly generalized duality. So, at the risk of over simplification and also indulging clichés:

Individualized Subject <-----> Overarching Context

To be a bit more specific, and in the interest of bringing things slightly more toward the motifs taken up by some of my past work, I'll isolate two themes in particular while also adding an italicized transitional verb in between. One final change will be to take the two-way arrow from above and alter it to become more assuredly directional:

Painter -----*skewing* -----> Painting
 Artist -----*skewing* -----> Art World

Painting, I would assume for many artists, can occasionally feel like a deeply compromised instrument for conveying any kind of tangible, specific meaning. How can one truly say what they mean with all of that wet material to manage and all of that unavoidable baggage to account for?

Additionally, a life lived within the amorphous confines of the art world can at times feel noticeably different from one that plays itself out in the lifeworld. Who can claim to be truly living when there are endless "must see" shows to view and so many semi-private, socially specific events to attend?

If I could now add to the admittedly short and embarrassingly simple list above, I would, in response to this current group of paintings, keep the general format the same but add the following two lines to the group:

Artist -----*skewing* -----> Pedagogy
 Artistic Convictions -----*skewing* -----> Academic Offerings

In a somewhat true-to-life manner, these paintings depict the bureaucratic end result (a syllabus) that is intended here to stand in for a process of willful self-skewing initiated by encountering, and ultimately meeting the specific needs of a larger academic context.

If one is to think of furniture in a similar way, then a bench might be seen as always implying the eventual possibility of needing to navigate the presence of another potential sitter. This implicit collective circumstance stands in stark contrast to the self-determined luxury afforded by your typical, individualized chair. In the face of such a negotiation, personalized zones have been specially crafted in the form of distinct and expressive cushions thoughtfully placed upon the three wooden benches in this show. Perhaps such nominal expressive opportunities might offer some kind of solace to those finding themselves slightly weighed upon by an unfolding crisis of autonomy. Therefore:

Autonomous Space	=====	Shared Space
Chair	=====	Bench
Cushion	=====	Wood