

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate release

Singapore, August 2014 – Art Plural Gallery is delighted to announce *Hypothetical Arrangements*, a solo exhibition by American artist **Dane Patterson**. The exhibition runs from **9th October to 15th November 2014** at Third Floor – Art Plural Gallery, and is the artist's first solo exhibition in Asia. *Hypothetical Arrangements* unveils over 15 new works of different sizes that have been created uniquely for this exhibition.

Born in 1978 in Indiana, Dane Patterson is celebrated for his graphite drawings on paper that depict meticulously arranged rooms of hypothetical households. Elaborating on the tradition of still life, Patterson builds his hyper-realistic compositions from a foundation of photographs taken either by him when visiting grand historical homes or taken from highly-aestheticized interior design catalogues. The artist's imagined scenes are structured around real rooms belonging to the homes of real people, including Aerin Lauder, granddaughter of legendary businesswoman Estée Lauder. In an ironic twist, even though Patterson's sources purport to capture the spirit of the house-owner through their aesthetic taste, the artist's bizarre compositions eliminate the human presence and instead draw energy from the spirit of the still life within.

Using these carefully constructed, pre-existing domestic spaces as a stage, the artist manipulates the setting by re-arranging the objects and placing them in unanticipated situations. By inverting or subverting the expected functions of ordinary objects, such as tipping a chest of drawers sideways or placing a cushion next to a bathroom sink, viewers are struck with a sense of unsettledness and displacement. Patterson's work challenges the notion of order and coherence with nuances of disorder and nonsense. In an environment rooted so deeply in images of order and aesthetic predictability, one is struck by the feeling that things are simply not quite right.

"I am creating imagined, disordered spaces out of these perfectly ordered, often highly aestheticized rooms, basically turning a real space that has been created to be useful and legible into a nonsensical, defamiliarized space." – Dane Patterson



Hypothetical Arrangement for the interior design of Axel Vervoordt #1, 2014
Graphite on paper, 43x30"

Patterson's hypothetical arrangements highlight the banality of domestic structures by re-assembling their constituents, the household objects, into scenarios that defy their usual function. In this world, why shouldn't a chair seat another chair? Why shouldn't a rug be pinned to the wall as decoration? When the laws are changed and definitions are re-evaluated, nonsense can then begin to make sense. This jars with the rules of the 'real world', where domestic objects are defined by their function and, moreover, are valued for their ability to perform it. Patterson explains, "*I think of these drawings as akin to thought experiments designed by philosophers when they puzzle through the consequences of particular questions. The drawings become a way to unsettle and visually think through domestic spaces, to imagine domestic spaces differently.*" Indeed, viewers are left to consider the meaning of a domestic space void of human presence: how is the function of a household object defined if there is no human agent to engage with it?

"Dane Patterson's unique perspective on the world is striking. *Hypothetical Arrangements* raises ideas that others might not consider and encourages a lot of thought. We are delighted to share the exceptionally strong voice of this emerging artist in his first solo exhibition in Asia."- Frédéric de Senarclens, founder and director of Art Plural Gallery.

Artist Biography

Dane Patterson uses photo-realistic details to depict meticulously staged disarray in his drawings. He takes inspiration from objects and begins his creating process by photographing models precariously and playfully covered in random objects. With his particular drawing method, Dane Patterson achieves photo realism with elaborate composition in which he engages the figures and the objects in an interdependent dialogue. His works, with amazing contrast and textures by his talented skills using graphite on paper, represent the reality of specific people, objects and situations yet defy both time and balance.

Dane Patterson was born in Columbus, Indiana in 1978. He graduated from IUPUI Herron School of Art in Indianapolis in 2002 and pursued a M.F.A. from School of Visual Arts in New York. His awards and distinctions include, Artist Fellowship in Drawing, Printmaking and Book Arts, New York Foundation for Arts (2009); MacDowell Colony Residency and Fellowship (2010) and Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Competition Award Nomination (2010). Dane Patterson has participated in numerous exhibitions including Galerie Bertrand & Gruner, Geneva, Switzerland; The Proposition Gallery, New York, USA; Exit Art, New York, USA; Real Art Ways, New Haven, USA; The Morris Museum, Morristown, USA; Drury University, Springfield, USA and Gallery 32, London, UK. The artist lives and works in New York, USA.

About Art Plural Gallery

Art Plural Gallery is a 12'000 square feet space dedicated to Modern, Contemporary Art and Design. Founded by Swiss art dealer Frédéric de Senarclens, this innovative platform nestled in a four storey Art Deco heritage building is situated in the heart of Singapore's cultural district. Art Plural Gallery has recently been featured by Blouin Artinfo as one of the world's best new galleries/museums.

About *Third Floor*

Third Floor is a lab of ideas, a cutting-edge contemporary art space devoted to emerging talents and addressed to young collectors. Welcoming an ambitious programming including temporary exhibitions (group, solo and thematic), art prizes, guided tours and art conferences, *Third Floor* is a dynamic and independent project of Art Plural Gallery.

It triggers a reflection and a dialogue with art. *Third Floor* is open to artists from any part of the world and from various disciplines (painting, drawing, sculpture, videos, installation, and photography). It gives artists an opportunity to express themselves, raise awareness for their work and boost their career.

Exhibition Details

Dane Patterson: *Hypothetical Arrangements*
9th October to 15th November 2014

Third Floor - Art Plural Gallery
38 Armenian Street
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Opening hours from 11 am to 7 pm - Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

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