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For Immediate Release.

MCASB Opens Semi-Permanent Exhibition at MCASB Satellite @ Hotel Indigo

Exhibition: *Andy Coolquitt: ...i need a hole in my head*

Opening reception: May 17, 2018, 6 - 8 pm, MCASB Satellite @ Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara, 121 State St

Exhibition on view: May 18, 2018 - November 20, 2018



From left to right: Andy Coolquitt, *CAA CAA*, 2017, Bathmat on canvas, 55 x 66 in., Courtesy the Artist, Photo: Adam Schreiber.
Andy Coolquitt, *Modern Hotel Abstraction #1*, 2017, Fabric on canvas, 96 x 32 in., Courtesy the Artist, Photo: Adam Schreiber.

Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, in partnership with Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara, is pleased to present *Andy Coolquitt: ...i need a hole in my head*, an exhibition featuring a major commission of new works by Andy Coolquitt. Since the 1990s, the Austin, TX-based artist has garnered recognition for his dynamic assemblages and expansive installations composed of ordinary found objects and materials that explore relationships between art, its viewing context, and the human body. Aiming to confound the distinction between these three categories, Coolquitt produces atmospheres of comfort and sociability where his

works companionably coexist, and at times are not always discernible, from their surrounding environments.

For this exhibition, Coolquitt has generated a vibrant body of work that includes paintings, sculptures, and video which the artist uses to form connections between some of the juxtapositional aspects of a place that is simultaneously private and public, homelike and commercial, an exhibition venue and a hotel. While acknowledging the tensions between these realms, Coolquitt's focus is on the potential of their intersections. In conceiving the works for this exhibition, the artist employs a straightforward tomfoolery intended to dislodge the typical viewing practices associated with contemporary art.

Throughout the exhibition, Coolquitt uses the language of geometric abstraction to riff off of the hotel's architectural and design facets, incorporating, for example, site-specific hard edge or gestural painting as a tactic to reimagine the lounge, stairwell, or skylight. Such interventions expand the engaging potential of these areas while they emphasize the impact of shapes, lines, colors, patterns, and textures on our spatial experience. Other works in the show consist of familiar domiciliary items such as bathmats, chairs, light bulbs, and nylon stockings. Coolquitt elevates the significance of undervalued ubiquitous objects that enhance our visceral response to interior environments, prompting viewers to critically analyze the dimensions of our attraction to these basic yet undeniably essential things.

Exhibition Curator: Brooke Kellaway

About the Artist

Andy Coolquitt was born in Texas in 1964, and currently lives in Austin. He is perhaps most widely known for the house which began as his master's thesis project at University of Texas at Austin in 1994 and continues to the present day. The house is a multifaceted entity, serving as a studio, performance, and domestic space for Coolquitt. In the summer of 2016, Coolquitt produced a multi-exhibition project titled *Studio Art.....Period Room* while in residence at Artpace in San Antonio, TX. In spring 2014 he was artist-in-residence at the Chianti Foundation in Marfa, TX, which culminated in the exhibition, *Multi-Marfa Room*, at the Locker Plant in Marfa, TX. Notable solo exhibitions have included *This Much* at Galerie Krinzinger in Vienna, Austria; *no I didn't go to any museums here I hate museums museums are just stores that charge you to come in there are lots of free museums here but they have names like real stores* at Maryam Nassir Zadeh in New York City, NY; *attainable excellence* at AMOA-Arthouse in Austin, TX; and, most recently, *HopsonShouse* at Jonothan Hopson, Houston TX.

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About Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara

Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara (MCASB) is a non-profit, non-collecting museum dedicated to the exhibition, education, and cultivation of the art of our time. Formerly Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF), MCASB is the premier venue for contemporary art between Los Angeles and San Francisco. MCASB is located at the Paseo Nuevo Shopping Center Upper Arts Terrace in downtown Santa Barbara, CA. With the opening of the MCASB Satellite @ Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara in February of 2012, MCASB becomes one museum with two locations. Located in the Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara at 121 State Street, the MCASB Satellite space features yearlong exhibitions of stimulating contemporary artworks.

About Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara

Hotel Indigo Santa Barbara combines historic Santa Barbara splendor with the architectural sophistication of modern design. Located in downtown Santa Barbara, at the gateway to the city and steps from the cutting-edge Funk Zone, the hotel offers an artistic contribution to the vibrant art community in the form of the MCASB Satellite exhibition space.