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The Secret Social Life of Painting Debuts at Co-Lab



Courtesy of Co-Lab and the artist

[Judy Rushin's](#) exhibition of works ["The Secret Social Life of Painting"](#) debuts this weekend in two parts, split between Co-Lab's Project Space and their downtown location [N Space](#). For "The Secret Social Life of Painting", Rushin constructed modular paintings that interact with the existing architecture to create temporal environments. These ad hoc structures bear resemblance to the provisional shelters implemented after a natural disaster and impress the relationship between individuals and their spatial environment.

Rushin's pieces utilize industrial materials such as automotive paint, cast plastic, and furniture lacquer. These materials emphasize the starkness of manufacturing and the humanistic touch these items can adopt once their use is recontextualized. The constructions are antithetical to the aspirations of mechanical engineering but instead reflect the individual's potential impact on mass production. Co-Lab's Project Space houses Rushin's larger constructions while her stand-alone pieces will be on view at N Space. "The Secret Life of Social Painting" will open this Saturday at Co-Lab's N Space and will be on view until November 24th. The Project Space opens next weekend with a public opening reception on Saturday, October 20th from 7-11 PM and will be on view until October 27th.

Contact the [author](#) of this article or email tips@austinist.com with further questions, comments or tips.

By [Caitlin Greenwood](#) in [Arts & Entertainment](#) on Oct 10, 2012 6:50 PM

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