

Artist's Favourites

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By Antoine Catala

Affective affinities and the works of friends influence me. Dialogues and life inform my thinking. I love for works to explore new territories. I believe, naïvely, in the power of art to change society. This belief is growing stronger by the day. Here is a small sample of works and artists who open doors in my head.



Margaret Lee, Exhibition view of »Michele Abeles/Margaret Lee/Darren Bader«
White Columns, New York City, 2010
Courtesy of White Columns

Margaret Lee

Margaret Lee co-runs 47 Canal, a gallery I work with. She is also an artist who likes to collaborate. Lee makes, amongst other things, ultra-realistic plaster potatoes – read sexual appendages. In 2010, she curated a group show at White Columns in New York that I loved. Titled Michele Abeles/Margaret Lee/Darren Bader (after the artists in the show), Lee made a simple request of her peers: do as you wish, but use my potatoes. So there were potatoes galore. The idiotic root was everywhere: the lines between the works were blurred and their authorship became indistinguishable. Lee provided a genuine but perverted platform for the artists – the love triangle was total and the works became one. I loved the hybridization of a curated show turned into a single work of Lee's, all with one elegant, self-deprecating, gesture. A form of peer-to-peer re-appropriation and exchange, in real life. *1980 in the Bronx, NY, lives in New York City.