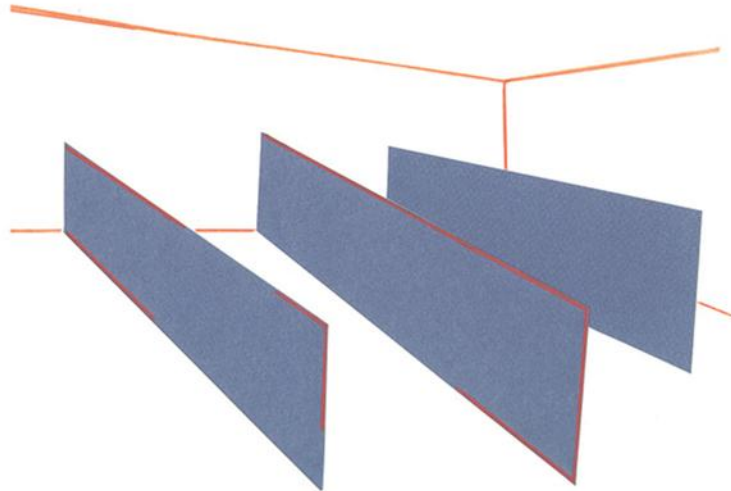


SUYAMA SPACE

2324 Second Avenue Seattle WA 98121

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At Owners Risk, graphic rendering, image by Avantika Bawa

AT OWNERS RISK: Installation by Avantika Bawa

AT OWNERS RISK: Installation by Avantika Bawa opens to the public on Monday, May 21 and continues through August 10, 2012. The artist's opening reception is scheduled Friday, May 18 from 5 - 7 pm, and her gallery talk will occur in the gallery on Saturday, May 19 at 12 pm. Suyama Space is centrally located between Battery and Bell in Belltown at 2324 Second Avenue. Regular gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and admission is free to the public.

On Thursday, June 28 at 7 p.m., Suyama Space and *The Text Garage* will present an evening of site-specific readings in conjunction with the *At Owners Risk* installation. Performing concurrently and in the round, poets Nico Vassilakis (from Seattle) and James Yeary, Lisa Radon, and David Abel (from Portland) will read work devised, arranged, and repurposed in response to the strategies and character of the installation.

AT OWNERS RISK, Avantika Bawa's first show in Seattle, is a site-responsive installation addressing the current structure and function of Suyama Space, as an

architectural firm and gallery, while also reflecting on its early history as an auto body shop and livery stable. By applying simple design tactics, seemingly obvious materials and colors are repurposed to create a platform in which the past and present collide. According to Bawa, her work “explores combinations of order and anti-monumentality, wholeness and fragmentation, containment and dispersal, to create experiential spaces and interventions. This emerges due, in part, to my relationship with the legacy of Minimalism and its emphasis on reductive form, modularity and literal scale.”

Avantika Bawa is an artist, curator, and academic. She has an MFA in Painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (1998) and a BFA in painting from the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India (1995). Artist activities include a residency at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, solo exhibitions at The Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA; Saltworks Gallery and the Atlanta Contemporary Arts Center, Atlanta, GA; Lalit Kala Academy and Nature Morte Gallery, New Delhi, India; Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India; Disjecta and Portland State University, Portland, OR, and numerous noteworthy group exhibitions, such as *The South by East Biennial* in Boca Raton, FL; Museum of Contemporary Art, GA, The Drawing Center and Smack Mellon, NY and St. Brigid’s Center for the Arts, Canada. Her works have been reviewed in international publications including the New York Times, Art Forum, Art Papers, Art Lies, Art India, Art Asia Pacific, The Oregonian, and The Times of India. www.avantikabawa.net

In addition to her art career, Bawa is on the managerial board of *Drain: A Journal for Contemporary Art and Culture*, a bi-annual journal of conceptual framework that seeks to promote lively and well-informed debate around theory and praxis. www.drainmag.com. Bawa is currently Assistant Professor of Fine Arts at Washington State University, Vancouver, WA.

AT OWNERS RISK: Installation by Avantika Bawa is made possible through funding from 4Culture/King County Lodging Tax Fund, the City of Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, Washington State University, Vancouver, and the Suyama Space Friends and was curated by Beth Sellars in partnership with Space.City. Suyama Space is in compliance with the 504/ADA Assurance for people with disabilities.

For more information:
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