

Dewy | Artist Statment

Dewy (b. 1971) is a Canadian born artist living and working in the United States. Her Brooklyn based practice is influenced by a history of living all across the US including New England, Las Vegas, the Pacific North West, and Detroit, among others. Her work centers on themes of memory retention and the inaccuracies and blurry parts that are inherent. Her paintings, sculptures, and large-scale installations are abstracted engagements with the nuance and textures of memory, trauma, and personal histories held within metaphoric and literal containers. Her work often plays with the tension between a hard-edged clean aesthetic and a world of decay and timeworn overuse. Her initial training in drafting is evident in her continued use of pattern and repetition as motifs, along with the works often carrying a sense of delineated space and formal layout. Carboard and resin are frequently used materials, representing elements of transience, compartmentalization, and crystallization. Her work moves in the way a well-worn memory does—traumatic or not, the recollection is carried around and brought out at times for comfort or examination, or relived involuntarily, with a kind of permanence and fragility. But in both situations, nuance and reframing can shift and change meaning entirely. This slipperiness of understanding and accuracy is a driving element in Dewy's explorations, and her work is an invitation to consider twice what is happening within the work and how meaning and understanding shifts and evolves. The change in scale from whole room installations, to tiny half inch squares creates a physical proximity to the territory of her subjects and changes the connotations of those relationships.