

## JULIO FINE ARTS GALLERY

Loyola University Maryland  
4501 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

**Gallery Phone** 410 617 2799  
[www.loyola.edu/gallery](http://www.loyola.edu/gallery)

### Joseph Hu: **Wonder and the Everyday**

March 14 – April 10, 2011

Artist Talk / Reception:

Thursday, March 24, 5pm – 7pm

#### Gallery Hours

Monday through Friday, 11am – 5pm

Sunday, 1pm – 4pm

Gallery will be closed during all University holidays.

#### Location and Parking

The Julio Fine Arts Gallery is in the College Center directly north of Jenkins lot and Francis X. Knott Humanities Center.

Paid parking is available in Jenkins lot on Bunn Drive; free parking is available on Cold Spring Lane after 6pm.

Cover image: **Ralph Lauren, Classic Fit.** 2007. gouache and graphite on Frankfurt Zerkall paper, glue. 31 x 56 x 11 1/2 inches.



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**Prismacolor.** 2007. acrylic on cardboard, glue, 57 pieces.  
7 7/8 x 9 3/4 x 6 1/4 inches overall.



**Untitled, After L.B.** 2010. Gouache and acrylic on cardboard, mounted on wood.  
11 1/8 x 13 1/8 x 1 1/8 inches.

## **Wonder and the Everyday**

**Belinda Haikes**

Joseph Hu's complex body of works quietly entice the viewer to confront the uncanny. Within his oeuvre of sculpture, painting and installation, Hu remakes life with an impeccable simulacra that holds traces of otherness, of melancholia and a distinct optimism in the belief of the everyday. Hu's sense of the wondrous is deeply rooted in the mundane and the minutiae of his life, and its objects. It is this very embrace of the everyday that instills Hu's work with its transformative power. The choice of objects spark a sense of wonder in their familiarity, whether the object is from his home, his studio or the environment. Hu's objects become an other, a more sublime specimen than the original through his craft.

In works such as *Les Animaux des Montagne*, *Prismacolor*, *Please Follow Me* and the precise *Sea Glass and Such (The Image in Memory)* Hu brings forth an uncanny collection that plays with our longing for a more perfect memory. The virtuoso simulacrum is intensified by the banality of Hu's material choices. Moving seamlessly through paper, plaster,

resin and cardboard, Hu's work reveals an obsessive craftsmanship that captures the audience with its engaging mimicry. Notably, his installation *Forest Reverie* made from paper, cardboard and glue, reveals an obsessive quality of making that transforms watercolor and paper into a intricate mass of leaves. In *Forest Reverie*, an intriguing hallmark of Hu's work, his use of what is not there, exquisitely renders the treeless branches into moments of pure contemplation.

Hu's work transforms the mundane and captures the imagination through his use of the uncanny, tapping into a deep need to contemplate the origins of our simulacrum. His thoughtful approach to the art object becomes a wondrous gift of his everyday world remade through the longing of the human heart and hand.

**Belinda Haikes, Art Critic, Visiting Assistant Professor,  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina**