

NICELLE BEAUCHENE GALLERY



Willie Stewart, *True Faith*, 2020, Colored pencil on cotton board, acrylic and u.m vinyl on polystyrene board, and acrylic on canvas over panel, 36 x 36 inches

Now Representing Willie Stewart

Nicelle Beauchene Gallery is thrilled to announce representation of New Haven-based artist Willie Stewart. Stewart's solo exhibition *Everything Has a Crack* is currently on view at the gallery through February 20, 2021.

Willie Stewart's still life and landscape paintings examine and classify time, memory, absence, and melancholy in relation to the visual culture of America. Informed by the conceptual tenets of the Pictures Generation, Pop Art, collage, and geometric realism, the artist juxtaposes images—both specific and undefined—into mise-en-scènes with nods to technology, music, art history and architecture.

As Josef Albers nested colors in his *Homage to the Square*, Stewart nests images. On top of faithfully reproduced backgrounds of gridded brick or cinderblock, masoned flagstone, and the grain of wood paneling, the artist mounts single flowers or bouquets of hand cut cotton and polystyrene board, thus altering the dimensionality of the picture plane. Stewart frequently architects his paintings with geometric delineations such as windowsills or thresholds, indicating interior and exterior frameworks.

Willie Stewart (b. 1982, Gallatin, TN) lives and works in New Haven, Connecticut. He received an MFA in Sculpture from Yale University (2018), and his BFA from The Cooper Union (2016). His work has been the subject of solo and two-person exhibitions at Morán Morán, Los Angeles, CA (2019); Soft Opening, London, UK, with Grace Abholm (2018); and Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY, with Brent Stewart (2017). He has also exhibited at Motel, Brooklyn, NY (2016, 2015); Seed Space, Nashville, TN (2016); Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA (2015); and Herron College of Art and Design, Indianapolis, IN (2015). Stewart completed residencies at Pioneer Works (2016), and Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2014).