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Jiyoon Koo

But Nothing Happening

April 27 – May 21, 2011

Reception: Thursday, April 28

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

BROOKLYN, NY April 2011 – A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *But Nothing Happening*, an exhibition by 2010-2011 A.I.R. Fellowship Artist Jiyoon Koo. The exhibition includes a series of paintings and an artist's book. The opening reception will be held on Thursday, April 28th, from 6 to 8:30 pm. Additionally, on May 1st, A.I.R. Gallery will host *Boring Stories*, a handmade book-binding workshop organized by Koo.



Jiyoon Koo's recent drawings and paintings continue her exploration of the gestural language of art-making. Koo paints semi-abstract and surrealistic 'face-scape' images where color and imagery move dynamically through layered spaces. Made with violent brush marks, perceptible images evolve from the chaotic blending of chunks of raw and dried paint. The paintings are meant to project excessive stimuli and produce an emotionally numbing effect. The drawing *Anti-Climax* is a deconstructed apocalyptic landscape composed of pencil lines that are at once both loose and sensitive. The seemingly jarring, nervous, irritable and sharp-tempered tone of *Anti-Climax* is meant to express the sense of void that accompanies the extreme boredom and anxiety of an apathetic people.

Koo will also include in the exhibition an artist's book entitled *Boring Stories*. Made together with participants in a book-making workshop led by professional bookbinder Susan Mills, *Boring Stories* is composed of special or traumatic events from real childhood memories that have been edited together in a narrative. While each episode will have provocative content, the narrative is diminished because the conclusion or climax is missing. By using this subtractive process, Koo attempts to create a book that exists only as form, lacking subjectivity. With this workshop and exhibition, Koo is ultimately experimenting with creating an unspectacular event or a spectacular event: that nothing is happening.

Jiyoon Koo grew up in Seoul, Korea, and lives and works in New York. She received her MFA from New York University. Her work has been exhibited in Doosan Gallery, New York; 80WSE Gallery, New York; and Gallery 2, Chicago. Koo is the recipient of the A.I.R. Gallery 2010-2011 Fellowship and a Santo Foundation Award. For more information, visit her website at www.jihaekoo.com. This is her first solo show.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Gallery hours: Wed. – Sun., 11am to 6pm. For directions please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information please contact Gallery Director, Kat Griefen at 212-255-6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.

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