

# The University of Connecticut

Contemporary Art Galleries

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CONTEM  
PORARY  
ART GAL  
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Surface Water 3, 2016



Column (Brass), 2016



Surface Water 1, 2015

## Press Release

For more information:

<http://contemporaryartgalleries.uconn.edu>

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## **SOTTO VOCE: Installations by Jong Oh**

March 29 – May 6, 2016

Monday – Friday 10 – 4 & Sun 1 to 4

### **Public Talk: Jong Oh - His Art & Career**

March 29 from 5 – 6pm – Art Building (Room 109)

### **Exhibition and Artist's Reception**

March 29 from 6 - 7 pm - Art Building, CAG

The Contemporary Art Galleries will present an exhibition of site-specific installations by New York based Korean artist, Jong Oh. The artist's primary medium is space. His spare constructions sculpt their environments, using negative space to alter viewers' perceptions of their surroundings. Oh says of his work:

*"Responding to a site's nuanced configuration, I build spatial structures by suspending Plexiglas and painted strings in the air. These elements connect or intersect with one another, depending on the viewers' perspectives. Viewers walk in and around these paradoxical boundaries constituted by three-dimensionality and flatness, completion and destruction. The viewers' experience becomes a meditation on perception's whim."*

Walking through Oh's structures, the viewers are not capable of seeing everything at once. Slowly, the space transforms and shifts, disorienting viewers as they try

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to determine what is real and what is not. Oh's play with light and shadow contributes to a surprisingly magical experience where his sparse use of modest materials and expansive space expose the limits of human perception. Oh compares his work to poetry: "*The works become subtle and restrained visual poems. Each only a few lines long, but addressing the universal.*"

Born in 1981 in Mauritania, Jong Oh spent his childhood in Grand Canaria, Spain. He earned a BFA in Sculpture from Hongik University in Seoul, Korea and an MFA from the School of Visual Art in New York City, where he now lives and works. "In 2014–2015, he has had solo exhibitions at Galerie Krinzinger, Austria; Jochen Hempel, Leipzig; and MARSO, Mexico City." His work has been included in numerous group exhibitions in Korea and New York and is housed in major private collections.

Oh will be on the Storrs Campus from March 21, through the opening of *Sotto Voce* on March 29. Prior to the artist's reception, Oh will present a public talk at 5pm in UCONN's Art Building concerning his artwork and career. This event is open to the public, and free of charge.

Jong Oh is represented by New York City's Marc Straus Gallery, which has kindly assisted in the production of Oh's Contemporary Art Galleries exhibition.

The artist's public talk is partially funded by UCONN's Asian American Studies Institute and the Art & Art History Department's, *Gus Mazzoca Fund Visiting Artist & Scholars fund*.

### **About UCONN's Contemporary Art Galleries**

The CAG has an outstanding history of presenting cutting-edge artwork. Recently the CAG has featured major works by artists such as: Shirin Neshat, Neo Rauch, Gregory Crewdson, Thomas Ruff, Thomas Eggerer, Yinka Shonibare, Carsten Höller, Sally Smart, Ed Ruscha, On Kawara, Robert Longo, Andrea Fraser, Janine Antoni, Janet Biggs, Kiki Smith, Fred Tomaselli, Diane Arbus, Marina Abramovic, Alfredo Jaar, Nari Ward, Julian Opie, William Kentridge, Josephine Meckseper and Vik Muniz.

You can find more about CAG by visiting:  
<http://contemporaryartgalleries.uconn.edu/>

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