

Shelter

Craig Rempfer *Book Match*

December 11, 2020 – January 16, 2021

In the gallery and online at shelternyc.com

Craig Rempfer's debut solo show with Shelter presents the artist's recent mixed-media wood paintings and handmade furniture in the main gallery paired with oil paintings in the gallery's viewing room.

Rempfer, a woodworker by trade, explores the possibilities of wood both as a painting surface and as an aesthetic tool, in that different grains carry pattern, color, and textural variations that can be juxtaposed with the artist's interventions. Each painting's geometric composition is symmetrically pleasing, allowing the material and the artist's hand to speak together in a precise, yet organic, way.

Surprisingly, Rempfer does not plan out a piece beforehand, rather relying on intuition to get started and becoming more methodical with each step forward. Instead of focusing on a structure or plan, Rempfer relishes in the process of *making*, remaining interested in watching each painting unfold over time.

The exhibition's title, *Book Match*, refers to the matching of grains on pieces of wood to create a mirror image; with each painting Rempfer manages to generate order, to – quite literally – put the pieces where they should lay. In doing so, he not only plays with the idea of the natural and mechanical world, but he also creates a meditative space for the viewer to stop and reflect, something valuable in the age we live in.

Craig Rempfer (b. 1986, Clinton, IA) lives and works in Westminster, CO. Rempfer holds an MFA from Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia, and in addition to his paintings makes custom handmade wood furniture and design objects. Contact crempfer@gmail.com to inquire about original woodwork.