



Installation view of "Andrew Witkin: Among Others" at James Harris Gallery, Seattle

Andrew Witkin at James Harris Gallery, Seattle, Washington

continuing through December 17, 2011

Andrew Witkin works in clean geometries of common objects, including squared-off chairs, simple tables, and stacked sheets of paper. Using pale apple plywood, a pile of white, button-down shirts, and text that repeats from one piece to the next, the artist's spare installations are quite compelling.

Constructed at right angles, Witkin's minimalist chairs are stand-ins for actual furniture, as the hard wooden structures are certainly not meant to support the weight of a person. Stacked on the floor next to a single chair, however, a sloping pile of folded shirts adds a sense of imperfection.

A table for three (with the fourth side against a wall) is set with papers instead of plates, as if each person has a story to tell. Alphabetically-arranged, the text reads, "object, one, open-ended, order, passive, people, place, places, play." In this quiet seating arrangement, there is one conversation: every person has the same lines, the same worries, the same preoccupations.