



MAYA SHOSHANI

BORN

Atlanta, GA; raised in Israel

WORKS

Chelsea, Manhattan, NY

EDUCATION

MFA, Savannah College of Art and Design
BFA, Hunter College

MATERIALS

Plastics (including vinyl), wood, paint

SUBJECT MATTER

Using materials that are commercially fabricated to mimic other materials, Shoshani re-envisions the gallery space as a furnished landscape.

INSPIRATION

Shoshani considers herself a landscape painter. However, instead of painting a scene literally, she uses her artwork to question the American vernacular and the materiality of its infrastructure.

For more information:

mayainthecity.com
stac.edu/amag

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Shoshani thinks of “place” as an elusive, abstract word, one that is intrinsically linked to ideas of authenticity. She uses authentic building materials, such as plastic, wood, and paint, that are commonly found in our cities.

TO TAKE AWAY

My Plastic Crush uses American iconography such as a white picket fence and a sign for gas along with more abstracted elements.

HOW COULD THIS RELATE?

AMERICAN HISTORY

“Home” as an idea is a central subject in this show, and many would agree that home ownership constitutes an important aspect of the “American Dream” and the American economy. What does the quintessential American home look like? Is the concept of an American home somehow influenced by history and traditional building practices? How is the idea of an American home reflected in American culture or even in the materiality of our cities?

PHILOSOPHY

By using materials that are commercially fabricated to mimic other materials, Shoshani’s work questions authenticity. The title of her show includes the word “plastic,” which we commonly use to mean something that’s fake. How do we know what makes a thing real and

authentic? Does authenticity have to do with how something functions? Or does authenticity have to do with how we perceive something?



AZARIAN MCCULLOUGH ART GALLERY