



Buffalo Arts Studio
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 Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 11-5; Saturday 11-3

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 Permit #3811

Beili Liu | *One, Another*
 Tom Hughes | *The Shotgun Method*

January 23 - March 6, 2010

Opening Reception
 Saturday, January 23, 2010
 7:00-11:00 p.m.
 Artist talks 7:00-8:00 p.m.

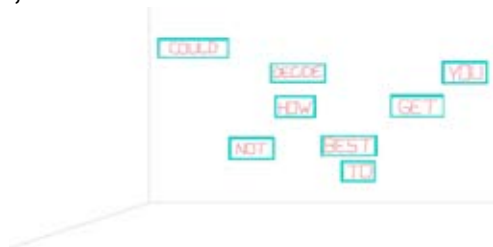
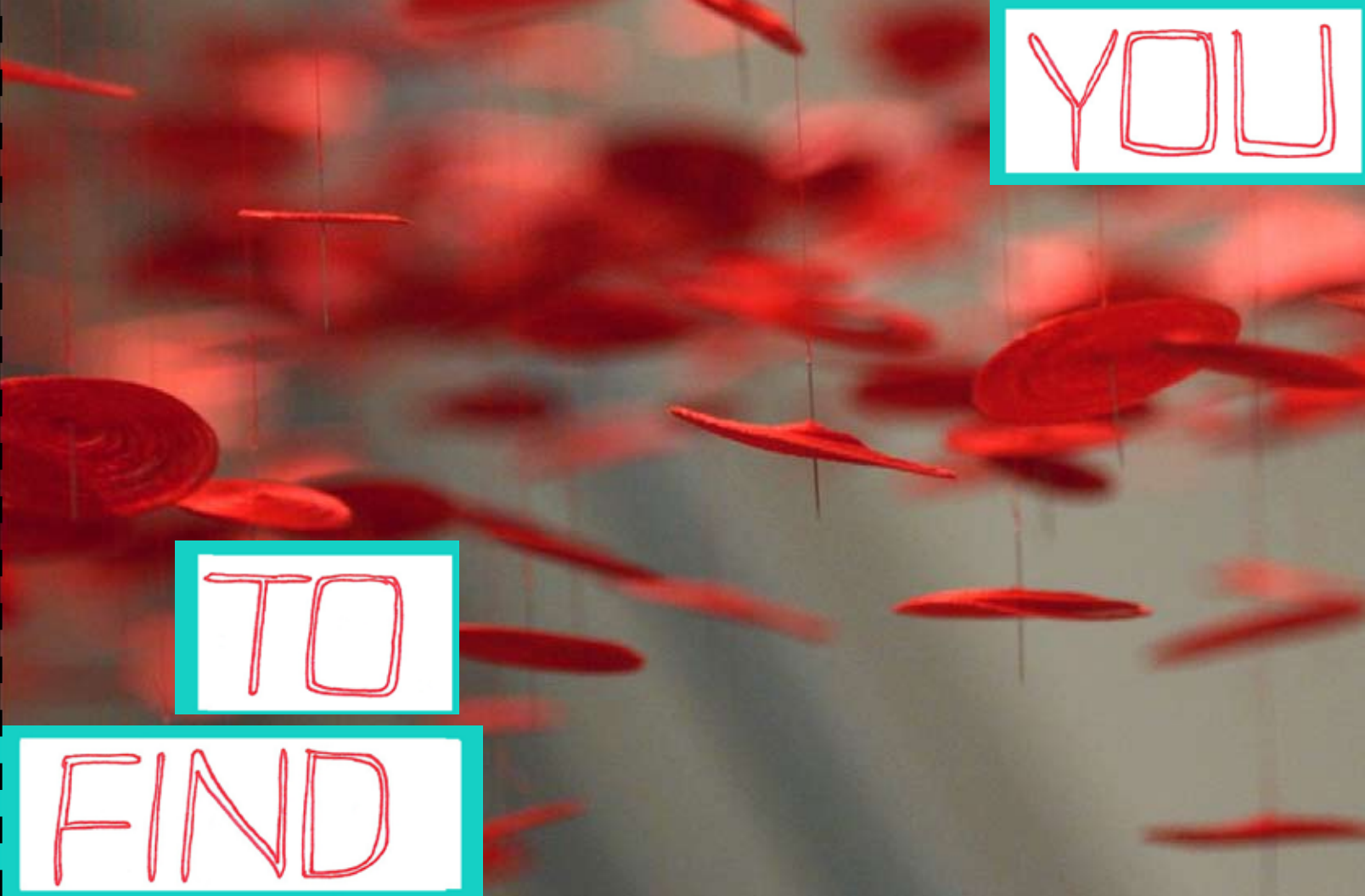


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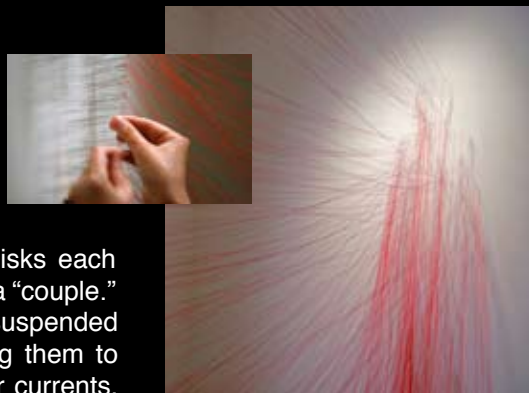
Beili Liu | *One, Another*

Beili Liu is a Chinese-American artist currently based in Austin, TX. For her exhibition at BAS, Liu will present two works from her *Lure Installation Series*. Both are inspired by the ancient Chinese legend of the red thread, which tells that from birth, invisible red threads connect children to the ones they are fated to love. As time passes, the beings grow closer and ultimately find each other, bypassing social and cultural differences. *Lure* is comprised of thousands of disks each created from a single, tightly coiled red thread that is connected to another, forming a “couple.”

Pierced with needles, the disks are suspended a few inches above the floor, allowing them to dance and mingle with the passing air currents. Liu suggests, “With a little effort, one can discover the ‘connected couples,’ though the swaying disks have their own ‘moves’ and ‘affairs’ regardless of the lines and connections beneath.” *Bound* was created by affixing numerous needles into two facing gallery walls to create silhouettes of a man and a woman. Red thread is inserted in each needle, connecting the figures with thousands of lines across the gallery space. Over time, the weight of the thread causes it to sink toward the floor, though the couple withstands, remaining visible and connected.

Beili Liu’s creative work has been exhibited and published extensively both nationally and internationally. She has shown in venues such as Elizabeth DeBrant Gallery, Shanghai; Tarryn Teresa Gallery, Los Angeles; Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz; Chinese Culture Foundation, San Francisco; The Institute of the Humanities, University of Michigan; Lessedra Contemporary Art Gallery, Bulgaria; and Granary Gallery, Fiskars, Finland. Her work has appeared and been reviewed in *Art in America* international review; *Ceramics: Art and Perception (TECHNICAL)* magazine, Australia; *China Daily*; *Turun Sanomat* news, Finland; *Detroit Metro Times*; *Detroit* magazine; *Real Detroit Weekly*; *The Ann Arbor News*; *AP Daily News/Asian American Village*; *Asian Correspondent—the World News Network*; and *The Omaha World Herald*, among others. Liu has held artist fellowships at Art Farm; Djerassi Resident Artist Program; Fiskars Artist Residency, Finland; and Fundación Valparaíso, Spain. She received her MFA from the University of Michigan, and currently is an assistant professor of art at University of Texas in Austin.

www.beililiu.com



Tom Hughes | *The Shotgun Method*

Tom Hughes is a sculptor and installation artist living and working in Buffalo, NY. For his exhibition, Hughes will show two new text-based sculptures, *The Shotgun Method* and *A Force of Nature*. Composed of modest materials such as acrylic, particle board, and electric light fixtures, his hand-lettered light boxes serve as vehicles for complex inner thoughts. Hughes creates works that are both unabashed and cautious, shrewd and naïve, that reverberate with the familiar trials of coming of age, self discovery, and love. Carefully crafted yet outwardly precarious, they elegantly capture the awkward, nervous moments that make up our day-to-day interactions. *A Force of Nature* recalls the triangular forms of a view finder and a megaphone, its photographic stillness overshadowed by its overt physicality and presence; *The Shotgun Method*'s protagonist brazenly announces his uncertainty, poetically yet persistently demanding the viewer's undivided attention: “Could not decide how best to get you...

to find you... thought I'd try this way first.” Arranged in free verse, the words are scattered and detached, offering a glimpse of the author's anxiety, deliberation, and strategy before finally reverting to his most instinctive, bold, and revelatory tactic: honesty. Hughes elaborates, “Words are almost always my starting point; how everything hangs on them, how they establish relationships, how they occupy a space. Words fill up the room. They exist simultaneously in a realm of simplicity and one of dense complexity.”

- Cori Wolff, Exhibitions Curator

Tom Hughes was born in Buffalo in 1972, raised in Niagara Falls, and educated at the University of Buffalo, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Married to the best wife of all time, Tom has two startlingly astute children. His family lovingly tolerates him. He reads books that are beyond his grasp. His Dad is a poet.

Sometime around 2001, he was consumed by a great big metaphor.

