



BENNETT BEAN 357 RT. 661 BLAIRSTOWN, NJ 07825 T. (908) 852-8953 F. (908) 813-0381

Painting Statement

This work happened by accident. While visiting my family in Hong Kong, I was invited to a funerary offering store by a friend of mine. They sold offerings designed to be burned at the graves of one's ancestors to provide them with anything they might need for the afterlife: paper replicas of money, clothes, cars, plane tickets, etc. Thinking of my deceased relatives, I was so enchanted by this idea that I bought quite a selection of the offerings, though for no ancestor in particular. I'm not exactly how much of this process I believe in or even if my deceased relatives believed in it, but these paintings are my way of dealing with my memories of them. Their memory only exists in my mind. The paintings reflect the quality of these memories – the fragmentary glimpses of those who are gone.

2005

The most recent paintings have replaced identifiable figures with the use of the figure as an abstraction. In the earlier pieces there were porcelain elements, which have been discarded. Also I am generating much more of the imagery rather than appropriating it from found images.

2007



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