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JACOB HASHIMOTO

THE DISAPPOINTMENT ENGINE

7 SEPTEMBER - 21 OCTOBER 2023
511 WEST 22ND STREET

Viruses, stained-glass windows, Atari circuit-board patterns, and leaf structures all collide in the eleven new sculptural works in *The Disappointment Engine*, Jacob Hashimoto's first solo exhibition at Miles McEnery Gallery. Loosely referencing East Asian craft traditions, the work also draws from the visual language of weeds and invasive species; radio telescopes; as well as the architecture of churches and mosques built during plagues, all to ask: how might visual sampling exist at the root of identity formation?

Through his artworks, Hashimoto explores what it means to build an understanding of oneself from scratch, both as a denizen of the visually cacophonous digital age, but also as a Japanese American artist grappling with family histories of internment that resulted in shattered cultural inheritance.

At Miles McEnery Gallery, *The Disappointment Engine* features an immersive, site-specific hanging installation stretching from wall to wall. Forcing viewers to duck, sidestep, and recalibrate, it initiates a physical dance of give-and-take: otherworldly, but also unapologetic in its right to take up space.

JACOB HASHIMOTO (b. 1973) has been the subject of solo museum exhibitions at MACRO - Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome, Italy; Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Venice, Italy; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; Schauwerk Sindelfingen, Germany; Wäinö Aaltonen Museum of Art, Turku, Finland; SITE Santa Fe, NM; Crow Museum of Asian Art, Dallas, TX; Tampa Museum of Art, FL; and the Boise Art Museum, ID.

His work is in the collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; Schauwerk Sindelfingen, Germany; Microsoft Art Collection, Redmond, WA; Fondation Carmignac, Hyères, France; Civic Art Collection, San Francisco, CA; and the Tokiwabashi Tower Art Collection, Tokyo, Japan, among others. He has lectured at the Rhode Island School of Design; Temple University; The City College of New York; and Rowan Oak, the home of William Faulkner.

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