

Artillery Magazine Gallery Rounds  
April 27, 2016  
JENNIFER CELIO at Haphazard  
by Jody Zellen



Jennifer Celio, "Hitched to everything else," Installation view

Memories, like dreams, are fleeting and fragmented. In her engaging exhibition “Hitched to everything else,” Jennifer Celio explores where past and present, personal and global intersect. Close to 100 hexagonal wooden panels (ranging in size from three to 48 inches) span the gallery walls, creating loosely structured honeycomb patterns. While each hexagon can be seen as a unique work, narrative clusters are formed by their placement as well as via stylistic and thematic similarities. While some panels are minimal—monochromes in yellow, orange, mustard, brown and deep cyan tones—others are intricately and realistically rendered paintings, pencil drawings and combinations of both.

The installation seamlessly incorporates large and small as it cascades across the wall. The smaller works function as punctuation—one three-inch piece declares “Look,” another “Yes,” and a third presents a drawing of an astronaut appropriated from *2001: A Space Odyssey* floating over a darkly painted tree branch.



Jennifer Celio, “Hitched to everything else,” detail

Among the most beautiful works in the exhibition are Celio’s 6-inch hexagons featuring colorfully striated silhouettes of iconic forms—a cat, a tree branch, a battleship, Darth Vader. These subtle paintings complement the texture of the bare wood seen on other panels and pepper the narrative as contemplative yet familiar pauses within the more abstracted flow.

There is a freedom to Celio’s current installation. It is a departure from her previous time-consuming, large-scale pencil drawings, though it is thematically similar. Celio speaks of her work as a place where human civilization meets the natural world and the ways in which flora and fauna collide and interact with people. She is interested in the macro as well as microscopic, the individual and the universal. In this installation, she is able to weave together a series of mixed-media works that speak to the connectedness of the disparate elements that surround her.

Jennifer Celio, “Hitched to everything else,” April 9–May 21 at Haphazard, 1543 Sawtelle Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025, [www.haphazard.co](http://www.haphazard.co)