Meliksetian MB Briggs

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Critics Picks: Los Angeles

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Pizza Reflection **Meg Cranston** Plastic and cardboard on wood 17"x 14" Photo: courtesy Meliksetian | Briggs

Meg Cranston has been exhibiting, writing, and showing rather prolifically for some decades now, perennially engaging, exciting, influential, and surprising. And yet, so much about her practice remains an enigma that even those closest to her are hard-pressed to predict what she will come up with next. By turns monumental, stoic, absurd, unsettling, crowd-sourced, intimate, chaotic and disciplined, Cranston's concoctions sometimes exist on an architectural scale, encompassing sculpture, collage, painting, and other hybrid mediums. But just as often, she produces small-scale mixed media

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works of snaggle-toothed grace and awkward urgency. Cheekily cryptic as to the agenda for her forthcoming exhibition, not even her gallerists know what to expect. The release of a single image depicts a dual "portrait" of a pair of what appear to be pepperoni and mushroom pizzas, in a classic blue-point drawing style nestled in a bed of distressed bubble wrap and mounted on marbleized backing, made of plastic, wood, and cardboard. Though impossible to extrapolate what formulation of works for floor, wall, or ceiling this image indicates for the whole, its understated, throw-away preciousness and disarming, folksy irony signals a continuation of her project to excavate anthropological meaning from the ephemera of modern living.

"Meg Cranston" opens January 23, 2016 at Meliksetian | Briggs.