

The Boston Globe

STRONG WOULD-BE MASTERS

By Cate McQuaid

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This year's "Boston Young Contemporaries" show, the eighth annual juried exhibition of work by artists getting their MFAs in art schools around New England, may be the strongest one yet. It's smaller than usual. There are fewer self-consciously grand paintings. The attention to detail feels sharper.

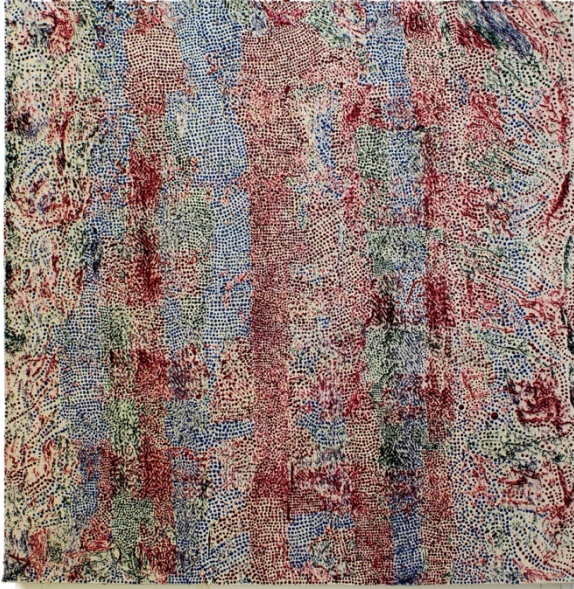
This summer, the exhibit takes up only half of the cavernous 808 Gallery at Boston University. Jurors Camilo Alvarez, owner of Samson, painter Meghan Brady, and Fabio Fernandez, exhibition gallery director at the Society of Arts and Crafts, had to be more selective.



Mistaken for Strangers I, acrylic and textile on canvas, 52 x 93.5 inches, 2013

It's still a big show, with 54 artists, many showing multiple works. Last year's trend was strong ceramics; this year, several artists walk an intriguing line between painting and textiles. Tuo Wang is the strongest. Wang's diptych

“Mistaken for Strangers I,” features crochet and other needlework in lush blues and purples with paint on canvas. Tufts of yarn and dribbles of paint create a fertile dialogue between two mediums with sharply divergent histories and conceptual baggage.



Mistaken for Strangers II, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 inches, 2013

More information:

BOSTON YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES

At: 808 Gallery,

Boston University,

808 Commonwealth Ave., through Aug. 24.

(No phone), www.bostonyoungcontemporaries.com

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