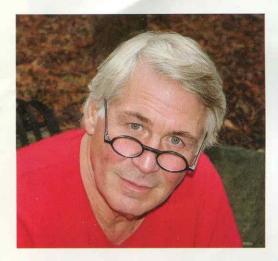
John Nieman





What is Missing Case Mixed Media 70" x 50"



What is Missing Close Up Mixed Media 10" x 4"

ohn Nieman creates works in mixed media that spin familiar objects into colorful pieces of artwork. Much of his works tend towards photo-realism, depicting everyday objects that are sometimes superimposed on papers with text, and other times simply painted brightly on canvas. Nieman favors saturated colors, imbuing his works with both a starkly realistic quality and evoking a spark of further visual interest. Deep shadows and stark lighting amplify the direct, honest quality of each subject. Sheet music and riddles add pattern underneath the casual subjects Nieman chooses to depict.

Some pieces become more realistic: milk cartons with "missing" ads on them bring the text onto the surface of the work rather than maintaining it as part of the canvas. In this way the everyday objects Nieman depicts so faithfully become not only subjects to be juxtaposed with text and artistic expression, but also objects to be formed and altered by text and artistic intervention.

"What Is Missing Case," an installation of a refrigerator full of these cartons, for instance, exists as an art piece with an extremely familiar composition and use. Nieman draws in viewers with this sense of familiarity and tells a narrative with everyday words and pictures.

In juxtaposing the everyday and the bizarre, Nieman both reveals and reinforces the complexity of reality, throwing seemingly normal yet highly specific objects into a new perspective. Aligning his visual art with poetry and humor, Nieman reveals objects like milk cartons, candy, and sliced bread to be just as artificial and mediated as the abnormal. Nieman preserves the familiar context and slightly alters it, creating uniquely balanced narratives.

Nieman lives and works from Dobbs Ferry, New York. He began his work painting studies off of a career in advertising. Correspondingly, television, pop culture, and Americana inform his practice today.

www.johnnieman.com www.Agora-Gallery.com/ArtistPage/John_Nieman.aspx