

Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform

Subject: EM: [Sprague Gallery] "Charles Becker – On the fence, open city" opens today and runs through November 13

From: Visual Arts at HMC

Charles Becker

On the fence, open city

October 20-November 13, 2022

Sprague Gallery



Extinct Mammular Form, 2021, oil on canvas, 16 x 20 inches

These excerpted paintings from 2021 show bodily forms in the processes of creation and destruction. The figures rest within the same plane as their negative space, considering the division between portraiture and landscape, and life and death. Cities are at odds with animals and insects, which seem, at points, to morph into cityscapes themselves containing modern symbols (roads, maps, buildings).

– Charles Becker

Sprague Gallery is pleased to announce *Charles Becker – On the fence, open city*, an exhibition of paintings by Charles Becker (Pomona '23, Art and Art History).

In the selected works, Becker thinks about figure, one in milieu of sociopolitical, historical, and natural forces. The interchange between the figure and the forces is not without tension and parallels the artist's alternation between drawing and painting. The figure that in drawing assumes force of its own – Becker 'press[es] hard on the paper' – in painting inevitably sinks into the workings of the oil mediums. It is in painting where the figure that is resistant is also the most fluid; and it is out of the resistant figure in dissolving that a new form emerges. The open city.

Charles Becker – On the fence, open city opens on October 20 and continues through November 13, 2022. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8AM to 5PM. The exhibition is open to the public. The Covid-19 guidelines will be updated as new information becomes available.

The exhibition is curated by arts director Julia Hong of the HMC Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts.

Upcoming Exhibitions

[Cayman Chen](#)

November 29-December 16, 2022

Sprague Gallery

[Vivian Monteiro](#)

January 23-February 10, 2023

Sprague Gallery

[Meghna Pamula](#)

February 21-March 10, 2023

Sprague Gallery

[E. Bacon Gershman](#)

March 28-April 14, 2023

Sprague Gallery

[HMC Department of Mathematics](#)

April 24-May 11, 2023

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