

Amy Casey, statement and bio.

After any pendulum swing of chaos grinds to a slow halt, there will come a time when you will have to decide if you are going to wallow in the rubble or take what remains and create a new empire.

Building upon recent work, I have been in search of a solid ground. A bit less kinetic than past work, I have been trying to take what was left of the world in my paintings and create a stability of sorts, thinking about community ties and the security (or illusion of security) needed to nurture growth. Cities are fascinating creatures that I am just beginning to scratch the surface of. The work and organization that goes into a city's creation and evolution, the constant shifting and adaptations and the sometimes hidden history of these changes, and a city's dependence on civilian cooperation are things I like to think about. Reflecting this interest, burgeoning cities have begun to fill in the voids in my paintings. As in life, with a sort of trial and error, some efforts work better in making the whole precarious heap hum. I am consistently fascinated by the resilience of life and our ability to keep going in the face of sometimes horrendous or ridiculous circumstances. My paintings celebrate this fascination and my love of the urban landscape.

Since earning her BFA in painting from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1999, Amy Casey has shown her work regionally and nationally with solo shows in Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Her work has been published in the New York Times, New American Paintings, Juxtapoz, Hi Fructose and Elephant Magazine. She enjoyed a fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center and a summer residency at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, MA- the latter in conjunction with the Ohio Arts Council. She was artist in residence at Zygoté Press in 2006 and is currently working there as a Resident Artist. Casey has been awarded two Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Awards, the Cleveland Arts Prize as an emerging artist and a grant through CPAC's Creative Workforce Fellowship program. Represented by Zg Gallery in Chicago, Casey resides in a little blue house in Cleveland.