

## Exhibition Highlight

## NEWS



*Microwave Oven*, 2012 is one of three works by Los Angeles-based artist Kaz Oshiro included in the Haggerty's current exhibition *Between Critique and Absorption: Contemporary Art and Consumer Culture*, on view through May 18. Oshiro makes three dimensional "paintings" that address notions of value. Fabricated completely from stretchers, acrylic paint, canvas, and Bondo (a brand of putty used in auto-body repair and carpentry), these shells (the backs are empty and unfinished) convincingly mimic the mundane objects they represent. *Microwave Oven* is stained with the splashes and drippings of re-heated food and drink, a telling detail that suggests this common household item has suffered from mistreatment. Inherent in this work is a tension between artistic labor— it is possible that the time spent to painstakingly craft the imitation microwave exceeds the factory labor required to produce the real thing — and the disposable nature of consumer products.

*Microwave Oven*, 2012, by Kaz Oshiro, Acrylic on stretched canvas, Courtesy of the artist and Artist Pension Trust Los Angeles



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