

Rice and Fire

Artist Talk by Michael Watson

[Saturday, January 30, 2016](#)

[2:30pm - 3:30pm](#)

Tabla Rasa Gallery (East Gallery)

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TABLA RASA GALLERY

[224 48 Street](#) (between 2nd & 3rd Avenues)

Brooklyn, NY 11220

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<http://www.tablarasagallery.com/>

FREE

New York-based artist Michael Watson utilizes extreme tools such as a roofing torch or sledgehammer to work with delicate organic substances, including rice and wood. Through this he creates dynamic abstract images that present explosive microcosms at the brink separating life and death. His practice occupies the space between annihilation and regeneration. In this 30 minute talk, he will discuss his aggressive divergent practice in detail, highlighting why he uses rice and how his work has evolved out of that pursuit.

After the presentation there will be a short Q & A session.





Bio

Michael Watson is a New York-based multidisciplinary artist who lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. His practice engages alternative processes in mixed media, installation, and performance and uses rice to explore themes related to being, substance and imperceptibility.

His work has been exhibited throughout the US, including the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY (2014), The Kitchen, New York, NY (2013) and the Governor's Island Art Fair, Governor's Island, NY (2012/13). He has been an artist-in-residence at the A.I.R. Program on Governor's Island (2013), the New York Studio Program, New York, NY (2006); and a teaching artist for the Knoxville Museum of Art (2009 - 2011). He is currently participating in the Chashama studio program in Sunset Park.

Watson received a BFA in Painting from the Art Academy of Cincinnati in 2006, and a MFA in Fine Arts from Parsons the New School for Design in 2013. From 2012 to 2015, he collaborated with Tatlo, a Filipino performance group with Jade Yumang and Sara Jimenez. In addition, Watson has curated exhibitions in New York, Ohio and Tennessee.

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Directions to Tabla Rasa Gallery)

The gallery is located two express subway stops from Manhattan on the "D" or "N" train to [36th Street](#) Station, plus one "R" stop to [45th Street](#) (or a just few short "R" stops beyond Park Slope).

By car, Tabla Rasa is on [48th St](#) between 2nd and 3rd Aves, Brooklyn. Ample street parking is available.