

- "While My Neighbor Sleeps" - Excerpts from publications, reviews and essays

"A note of urban calamity is struck in more abstract, elegiac terms in Andrew Bennett's video "While My Neighbor Sleeps" (2000). Here we see close-up a dense field of upright, unlit white birthday candles. To a soundtrack of droning electronics, they begin to collapse, melting from the bottom up, stirring whatever anxieties about collective demise may haunt us. Few other things in this widely diverting and inconsistent show are as powerful." - Kenneth Baker, San Francisco Chronicle

"Andrew Bennett's installation transforms the nostalgic birthday candle into a poetic meditation on the invisible forces in our lives. While My Neighbor Sleeps is an eerily beautiful video of unlit candles buckling under from an invisible heat source set against the amplified buzzing of home appliances." - Wendy Atwell, CANVAS Visual life in Texas - Houston, Tx.

"Even if were to try and ignore the material corporeality of the works, the power of their suggestion still serves to inform the experience. Bennett's multiplicities of metaphors are fresh and innovative and the supreme irony is that at the heart of his mediums there is the implication of that which is already happened or things that will no longer exist." - Christian Hays catalog/exhibition essay, "Andrew Bennett / Preserving the Ephemeral"

"The wax works of Andrew Bennett appear more closely aligned to traditional handmade painting but on closer viewing appear to have formed on their own and without traces of hand. Bennett's use of birthday candles comes closer to Pop Art's impurity of modernism" - John Pomara - exhibition essay, "Substance Abuse"

"There is something strangely enthralling about the candles swooning in random waves. The suburban sounds mixed with the scenes of disaster recall the Australian movie "The Last Wave". And the resulting wall pieces of brilliantly colored candles frozen in mid-swirl are haunting and beautiful" - Dan Goddard, San Antonio Express News

"An economical approach to oddity" - Brett McCabe, Dallas Morning News

"Some works engage, Andrew Bennett's, "Candle Suite" presents six rectangles of unlit birthday candles melted into a landscape of saturated color, looking like unruly shag carpet samples from the '70s. - Gregory Crosby, Las Vegas Mercury

"His work lies between painting as a pictorial medium and sculpture as material matter. Bennett's fallen candle series collapses the boundaries of painting and reconfigures it as a material object. In recent works, two thousand birthday candles are arranged in a panel of beeswax and then documented as they fall and intertwine in the cooling process. The result, resembling a shag carpet, is a sensual, intriguing, and confusingly beautiful painting object." - Sean Horton, guest curator "Mostly Monochrome" Boston Center For The Arts

"This malign bit of fun, called While My Neighbor Sleeps, owes something to a mass gassing, especially since it seems to take place inside an oven. It's accompanied by an exquisite soundtrack of intermittent industrial honkings, crowd screams and barking dogs, a hilarious slow burn of neighborly antipathy." - Joel Weinstein, Dallas Morning News

Other reviews can be seen in ART NEW ENGLAND Oct/Nov. 2002 and Las Vegas Weekly, Nov. 7-13 2002

www.refusalon.com/AndrewBennett.html

<http://www.finesilver.com/news.asp?ID=1>

www.kleinart.com/html/andrew_bennett1.html

<http://www.bcaonline.org/downloads/MonochromeMostlypr.pdf%20->