Artist Statement
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Saudade & Other Untranslatable Words
ZINC contemporary
Thursday, August 3, 2017 - Saturday, Spetember 2, 2017

I am in the process of developing of a new series of work inspired by two separate yet seminal influences in my life: my present experience of witnessing my city's transformation through rampant and rapid building development, and Constructivism, a one hundred year old art and architectural movement that captured my imagination as a socially conscious student. My new work addresses the impact of Seattle's current rapid growth, while staying rooted in the art historical context of Constructivism, which rejects the idea of art for art's sake and passionately believes that art, architecture and design can be employed consciously for positive social change, or simply to serve and support the community. At the beginning of the last century, like today, technological advances were embraced and were supposed help promote a more positive future.

We are in a very similar cultural moment today to the one the original Constructivists faced after the first World War; we believe that technological advances will eventually create a better world, but we are challenged by pervasive consumerism and a focus on personal gain, often at the expense of our own communities. In Seattle, our environment is constantly changing architecturally and thus spatially, in dramatic ways. Landmarks and other more modest historic structures are disappearing, so we no longer have them as a touchstone for our own history, our memories and our sense of cultural continuity.

The images in this new series of drawings and animations, in part, question how imagination, geometry and structure relate to our physical, and cultural environment. How does rapid change effect our sense of community and our sense of place? I plan to develop these ideas through mixed media works on paper and two related animated films. The images in the animations are generated in part from the works on paper and are expanded and developed further for the animations.