

Pale *Grass Blue*

New works by Misha Ilin

On view October 19 through November 23, 2024

Artist reception Saturday, October 19, 2024, 5–7pm

1353 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009



Misha Ilin, (*epigraph instruction*), 2024

Washington, DC: Hamiltonian Artists is pleased to present Misha Ilin's solo exhibition *Pale Grass Blue*. Ilin's latest body of work asserts that ecocide, wars, body politics, and capital each exist as a sort of radioactive event, altering and reshaping the genome of what we term *reality*. As these normalized, so-called *actions* seep toxins into the fabric of the socio-political environment and geographical landscapes, things become increasingly blurry, hazy, and loopy.

In response to philosopher Timothy Morton's theoretical assertion of the hyperobject,¹ *Pale Grass Blue* slips into the void. The exhibition will include a suite of new installations, found objects, video, directives, and other textual elements. Utilizing both natural and artificial materials such as drywall, floodlights, spray paint, clay, sand, and plaster—Ilin immerses visitors in a surreal, shimmering landscape that reflects a sort of porosity. There, fractures that distort our everyday modes of thought and social relation are compounded. In signifying moments of slippage, mutation, and critical mass, Ilin's work sounds an alarm that calls attention to the permeability of our bodies and collective consciousness. To offer broader context for his latest work, Ilin shares the following,

"Akin to scratchy rays of radiation that burn and mutilate, events that have transpired and continue to effect change long after we are gone. We are left new and bizarre, like the wings of a mutated Pale Grass Blue."

An artist-led exhibition walkthrough will be held on Saturday, November 9, 3–5pm. Link to register [here](#). Visit Hamiltonian Artists' [website](#) and follow [@hamiltonian_artists](#) on Instagram for more information; details to be announced.

¹ A hyperobject is an object that has vitality, like race, class, or climate change; its effect may be experienced even if it cannot necessarily be touched.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Misha Ilin's interdisciplinary practice investigates constructed realities as forms of human, environmental responses to excessive authority and control. The interactive spaces Ilin creates are primarily constructed through situational criteria informed by contemporary dilemmas, such as exploitative labor, social inequality, and exhausting immigration procedures. In addition to written parameters, Misha's work engages with performed prompts, sculpture, and installations in which he often embeds metanarratives and the aesthetics of folklore and gaming culture. Themes of fantasy blur the line between lightheartedness and darkness, mirroring the strange nature of authoritative social systems.



In generating situational prompts hinged upon individual viewer response such as conversation or physical participation, Misha's work also lends itself to reconfiguration and negotiation. Such open-endedness queries the interrelation between subjugation and circumvention, and sheds light on the ways in which constructed realities might function as vehicles for resistance, introspection, and the reclamation of agency.

Misha studied art at the National Centre for Contemporary Arts, Moscow, Russia. In 2016 he moved to the United States to pursue his art career and earned his MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, in 2019. Misha has recently exhibited at M+B Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; the kitchen, Berlin, Germany Modern Art Museum Shanghai, Shanghai, China; and Washington Project for Arts, Washington, DC, among other venues. Misha currently lives and works in New York, NY.

ABOUT HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS

Hamiltonian Artists' mission is to nurture community and increase access to space, opportunity, and resources for emerging artists, through impactful programs and exhibitions.

The organization reaffirms and expands upon its originating vision as an incubator for the professional development of emerging visual artists, serving as a hub for Washington, DC's, creative economy and a vibrant center for contemporary art in the DC area. With its unique investment in emerging artists, Hamiltonian Artists provides resources to aid their development in important business skills, professional experiences, and visibility to support and sustain their art career.

Through the fellowship program, exhibitions, studios, artist talks, public events, membership program for art collectors at all levels, and so much more, the organization contributes to the vitality of the area's arts scene by deepening the appreciation for contemporary art and culture throughout Washington, DC, and beyond.

HOW TO VISIT

Location: Hamiltonian Artists, 1353 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

Hours: Thursday–Saturday, 11am–6pm

For more information visit hamiltonianartists.org.

CONTACT

For press inquiries and additional info, contact Anisa Olufemi, fellowship manager and curator anisa@hamiltonianartists.org.

Images available [here](#).