

ARTWEEK

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'LIMITED RUN' IS AN EXERCISE IN INTERACTION



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Spring is the time when many get back into running, artists among them. Hartford native Laura Nova has turned to running in a big way in recent projects, triggering a mechanism that sings a finisher's name celestially at the end of a race at New York's Riverside Park, or running up to four hours a day on a treadmill in "Runner's High," part of the Praying Project in New York in 2005.

And now it's your turn. In "Limited Run," opening today at Real Art Ways in Hartford, Nova had an indoor track built inside one of the medium-size rooms at the gallery. Visitors can walk or run around the 20-meter loop with banked corners that may be more enticing to skateboarders than distance runners. Make it around once, and a fire bell rings. To run a mile, you'll have to go around 80 times (with 80 dings).

Don't dog it; a camera will chronicle the track's use — streamed live at www.limitedrunproject.com — as typical workout music plays (direct from "Jock Jams, Vol. 1").



"STRUCTURE OF SHADOW" by Bohyun Yoon is one of two exhibits at Real Art Ways that concentrate on movement and the human body.

Even without runners, the black track in the white room resembles a pop-art installation; its stencil-style lane numbers further push a Jasper Johns connection.

Nova, who lives in New York's Lower East Side and is an assistant professor in the creative art and technology program at Bloomfield College in Bloomfield, N.J., will be on hand to give a couple of

"walk-and-talks" on the track June 3 at noon and June 7 at 6 p.m. She'll also speak after a matinee screening of the running classic "Chariots of Fire" and be there at a members' opening June 8 at 6 p.m.

Nova was chosen as a result of the museum's open call for emerging artists, Step Up, two years ago, but the gallery hasn't been available for her work until now.

An accompanying installation also opening today, "Structure of Shadow" is from Bohyun Yoon, an artist that was selected in last year's Step Up program. It, too, concentrates on movement and the human body, but in a very different way.

His installation, which seems at first to be an intricate rack on which hundreds of tiny doll parts hang from threads, takes on a life of its own when a motion detector (detecting you, gallery visitor) swings a bare lightbulb in the middle, throwing the seemingly random assortment of arms, legs, torsos and heads into sharp, human-shaped relief onto the white wall's shadows. There the figures seem to dance in a wild line of hieroglyphics that is as ephemeral as the shadows and light.

It's a wonderful device from the South Korea-born artist who lives in Philadelphia, where he is adjunct faculty member at Tyler University of Arts. It will fascinate viewers, perhaps as they chill down from the accompanying exhibit.

» **"Laura Nova: Limited Run" and "Bohyun Yoon: Structure of Shadow"** open today during the Creative Cocktail Hour from 6 to 8 p.m. at Real Art Ways, 56 Arbor St. in Hartford. Nova will be at the event and in residency at Real Art Ways in early June; Yoon will be at a reception June 17, at next month's Creative Cocktail Party. Both shows run through July 3.

» Send news of exhibits and openings to rcatlin@courant.com.

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010

ART TALK

It's the last chance to see Daniel Heyman's politically charged show "Dancing Witnesses: Stories from the

"1908 and All That," a lecture by curator Teri J. Edelstein Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Yale Center for

reconnect with her artist friends and to present a new show, **"The Tree Museum,"** at Artspace Hartford, 555 Asylum Ave. The opening reception is Friday from 6 to 9