BLAKE GOPNIK on art



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AT POSTMASTERS, SHAMUS CLISSET'S VIRTUAL BASKETBALLS CAN NEVER QUITE SCORE

THE DAILY PIC is a lovely computer simulation called "BRICK" by Hell's Kitchen artist Shamus Clisset, from his current solo show at Postmasters in New York. (Click on my image to watch a video clip.)

Clisset's CGI presents a virtual world that he's built in which basketballs are forever flying at a basket but never quite going in, ad infinitum without repetition. (Given what programs are normally designed to do, I wonder if it was harder to build that scenario than one where a ball does sometimes score a point?)

The piece clearly stands for the endless frustrations that, shockingly, still come with Blackness in 2021. But it also points to the frustrations and futilities that come with artmaking right now.

The irony is that, by failing to score in his virtual world, Clisset wins today's game in the art world.

For a full survey of past Pics visit blakegopnik.com/archive.