SEARCH

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#### PETER WAITE ART TAKES OVER THE EBK GALLERY

Art Exhibitions• Amy Lin

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**Peter Waite art** pieces have and unusual eerie glamour that's at the same time incredibly appealing and utterly repulsive. He paints large-scale images of places where people go unwillingly, like **operating rooms**, **offices or prison cells**. By realistically painting these sites without the presence of humans or emotions of any kind, Peter Waite also portrays the emptiness of today's postindustrial life. **EBK gallery in Hartford in Connecticut** is hosting Peter Waite's celebrated mid-1990s series that portrays spaces that require a permission to enter. Solo show entitled *it's like déjà vu* all over again consists of 19 paintings originally presented at Edward Thorp Gallery space in New York in 1996.



Peter Waite - Casino Bahamas, 1996

## Institutions as Accumulations of Collective Memory

Peter Waite spent 25 years documenting his visits to places that embody public sentiment and ideology. His large-scale

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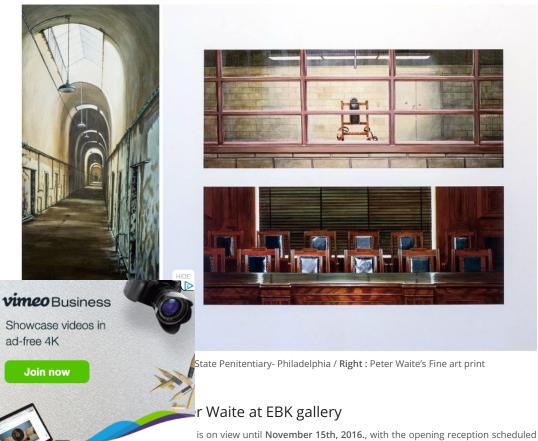
**EBK GALLERY** Hartford, United States the beauty of ordinary spaces, but also travels to unusual locations to turn the unknown into familiar. Various institutions are the main subjects in his work, but the painter portrays them, not only as symbols of power, but also as accumulations of collective recollections.



Peter Waite - Board Room - The Hartford, 1996

#### Peter Waite's Celebrated 1990s Series

Peter Waite's it's like déjà vu all over again exhibition consists of paintings created in 1995 and 1996 on locations that need special permission to enter. These places span from courtrooms and prisons to casinos, operating theaters and boardrooms of big corporations. All artworks were painted on aluminum panels that are gray, hard and cold just like the places depicted on them. The paintings represented the growing industries of the 1990s that continue to develop even today which evokes the familiar feeling of déjà vu.



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single electric chair and courtroom jury seats appear as if they were created by the same manufacturer.

Featured images: Peter Waite – Union Carbide Board Room; Peter Waite – Office, 1995; All images courtesy of EBK gallery, Hartford, Connecticut

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