In Studio: Talwst's tiny worlds

Curtis Santiago crafts universes in which the broad strokes of social angst, in all their intensity, fit in the palm of your hand

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The tiny worlds of Curtis Santiago (a.k.a. Talwst, or “tall waist,” for his family’s propensity for long-leggedness) demand close inspection, and not just because of their miniature stature. Investing his fantastical scenarios with fraught political reality — race, class, gender — he charges them with microcosmic force. Hand-held though they may be, they contain the powerful suggestion of the universal. At Angell Gallery, 444 Dupont St, Unit 15, until Nov. 14.