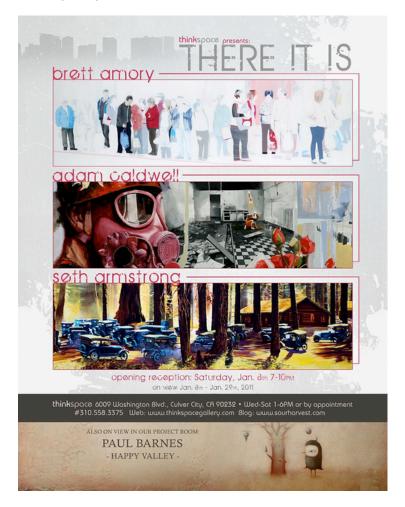


For Press and Publicity Inquiries Please Contact:

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Thinkspace presents:



'There It Is'

Featuring new works from:
Brett Amory / Adam Caldwell / Seth Armstrong
(Main Gallery)

Paul Barnes

'Happy Valley' (Project Room)

Both exhibits on view: January 8th – January 29th

Opening Reception: Sat, January 8th 7-10PM

Los Angeles, CA - Thinkspace is pleased to present *There It Is*, an exhibition of new works from three Oakland, CA based artists that explore the urban aesthetic from three distinctly different points of view. From the observational based oil paintings of Brett Amory to the history drenched collage styled oil paintings of Adam Caldwell through to the surreal

bent on the world around us as seen through the eyes of oil painter Seth Armstrong, *There It Is* offers up a painterly tour de force that is a great way to kick off our 2011 program.

Also showing concurrently in our project room will be *Happy Valley*, an exhibition of new works from Ireland based artist Paul Barnes in what will be his first major solo exhibition in the States following numerous group show appearances with our gallery over the past few years.

About Brett Amory:

Born 1975 Portsmouth, Virginia

Education BA in Fine Art from Academy of Arts University in San Francisco, CA in 2005

Born in Chesapeake, Virginia in 1975, Brett Amory is descended from a long line of visual artists and musicians. He studied at the Academy of Art from which he received a BFA in Fine Art in 2005 and was recipient of two major awards given by the school: The Student Choice Award for 2004 and Second Prize in landscape painting for 2003. He is the recipient of a gold medal from Online Artists Interviews, an international juried art competition (2009). Amory began working on the painting series entitled "Waiting" in 2001. The series depicts the urban individual's yearning for presence and the seeming impossibility of attaining it. The paintings portray commuters in transit immersed in either a quiet, even hopeful state or, alternately, an anguish of unfulfilled anticipation. Amory's work has shown the world over including shows with respected galleries such as Bold Hype Gallery (NYC), Fecal Face Gallery (SF), Sandra Lee Gallery (SF), London Miles Gallery (London, England), White Walls (San Francisco, CA), Gallery Heist (San Francisco, CA), and has taken part in SF Art Fair (San Francisco, CA – 2010), LA Art Show (Los Angeles, CA - 2010), Beyond Eden (Los Angeles, CA 2010 & 2009), and Agua Art Miami (Miami, FL – 2009),

Amory's work was published as part of the highly regarded 'Convergence' book alongside Mars-1, David Choong Lee, Damon Soule, Oliver Vernon, and NoMe Edonna in 2005. His paintings have also graced the pages of Juxtapoz, Brick, Faesthetic, C-Heads, Onoffice, Refused, and Twenty Two.

Statement regarding the 'Waiting' series:

The painting series entitled "Waiting" depicts the urban individual's yearning for presence and the seeming impossibility of attaining it. The paintings portray commuters in transit immersed in either a quiet, even hopeful state or, alternately, an anguish of unfulfilled anticipation.

At first, the series, begun in 2001, depicted travelers waiting underground. But as the paintings evolved, the people ceased to be exclusively travelers, and began to emphasize figures selected from anonymous snaphots of city streets. Although the experience of waiting remains, the perception of it has changed from one of mundane task to one leavened with transcendence.

The series has also charted the evolution of an artist—the reductive elements of the compositions provide an outward echo of the inner states of the figures. By reducing the elements of the painting as far as possible, a frozen moment is extended.

Lastly, I have developed favored motifs in the series, a kind of visual music, such as repetition of a human image, to show not only the passage of time but of the human being through it.

Website: http://brettamory.com/wordpress/

About Adam Caldwell:

Born 1963 Framingham, Massachusetts Education BFA with honors from the California College Of The Arts in 1998

Artist Statement:

My paintings and drawings juxtapose elements of abstract expressionism and classical figuration. During my training at the California College of Arts and Crafts, I began to create collage drawings that layered disparate images on top of one another; I now use oil paint in a similar way, starting with an abstract background and then adding more photorealistic details, allowing the work to dictate its own construction. The resulting palimpsest of figures and abstract shapes represents the conflicted and paradoxical emotions that underlie my work. My paintings evoke the tensions between mind

and body, self and other, present and past. They also raise questions about the nature of identity, particularly concerning issues of gender and sexuality. I am deeply concerned about the world around me, and my work reflects my reactions to social issues such as war and consumerism by contrasting images from American advertisements and popular culture with images of rituals from around the world.

The eclectic nature of my work reflects my wide range of interests and influences. My figurative painting and drawing has been influenced by the realistic yet expressive work of Odd Nerdrum, Francis Bacon, Lucian Freud, Antonio López García, Jenny Saville, and Barron Storey, whom I studied under at CCAC. Theories of consciousness by philosophers such as Daniel Dennett have also informed my art work. I am inspired by my grandfather, author Erskine Caldwell, and his commitment to representing the unseen and marginalized members of our society. I am also heavily influenced by music, movies, and comics, all of which have shaped my identity. I am an accomplished guitarist and martial artist, and these disciplines also inform my artistic perspective.

One of my most important areas of inspiration is the community of artists I surround myself with. Painting in particular can be a very lonely and isolating practice, so I make a point to attend drawing groups and I share studio space with David Choong Lee. Although the process can be solitary, I paint to commune with others and allow them entrance into my interiority. Painting connects me to my world and times and culture. I always hope to create work that will invoke in someone else the feelings I have had before great art.

Caldwell is currently a full-time arts instructor at the Academy of Art University and will be showing at White Walls in San Francisco, CA later this year.

Website: www.adamhuntercaldwell.com

About Seth Armstrong:

Born Los Angeles, CA Education BFA from the California College Of The Arts

Seth Armstrong was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA. He received his BFA from the California College Of The Arts. He currently lives and works in San Francisco, CA. His work has shown extensively across the States and Europe including hanging in such renowned galleries as 111 Minna (San Francisco), Redletter1 (Tampa Bay), Papa Dutch Gallery (The Netherlands), Rowan Morrison Gallery (Oakland), and many others and took part in the 2006 Annual Scholarship Exhibition at the Society Of Illustrators Museum in New York.

Armstrong's work displays a compulsion to juxtapose hyper-realistic re-creations of his surroundings with various fantastical segments of his imagination. The resulting narratives contain elements of drama, mystery and humor that "accentuate the theatrical and fictitious characteristics believed to be apparent in everyday life". He feels that "the actions of the subjects and the circumstances of their environments are often vague, only hinting at the events that are inherently taking place".

Website: www.setharmstrong.com

Take a 'Sneak Peek' at the works for 'There It Is' coming together here:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/thinkspace/sets/72157625482690931/

About Paul Barnes:

Artist Statement:

I guess my closeness to nature and the slight isolation of growing up in the rural north of Scotland, along with my fascination of its ancient traditions rich in folklore and legend no doubt forms the basis of my work, no matter how much I try to escape it. It's this inspiration, from a very early age, that fuels a big part of my imagination today. Resurrecting the creatures from my childhood memories, conscious of the innocence and naivety in the forms, I enjoy playing with them like I did as a child. I try hard to make my paintings look old, to recapture my visions with a feeling of timelessness and space, kind of like a dream or distant memory that has become all blurry and faded. I feel very lucky to have had some interest in my paintings in the USA lately and am honored to have shown in galleries such as La Luz de Jesus, Billy Shire Fine Arts, DvA Gallery, Carmichael Gallery, and Gallery 1988, alongside so many incredible artists who have become a new and important inspiration to me.

Artist website:

www.paul-barnes.com

Take a 'Sneak Peek' at the works for 'Happy Valley' coming together here:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/thinkspace/sets/72157625332361367/

ABOUT THINKSPACE GALLERY:

Established in November of 2005, Thinkspace exists as a catalyst for the ever expanding new contemporary art movement that is exploding forth from the streets and art schools the world over. We are here to help represent this new generation of artists, to provide them that home base and to aid them in building the right awareness and collector base necessary for long-term growth.

Our aim is to help these new talents shine and to provide them a gallery setting in which to prove themselves. It is our hope and dream that through these opportunities these individuals will prosper and continue to grow to amaze us all for years to come. With the love of and for our community, and with the talents of so many incredible artists involved, we believe that this movement will provide the necessary proving ground for the ideas and dreams of today to become the foundations of a new tomorrow.

Thinkspace Gallery is located at 6009 Washington Blvd, in the heart of the Culver City Arts District, Culver City, CA 90232. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, please call 310.558.3375, visit www.thinkspacegallery.com, or email contact@thinkspacegallery.com.

COMING UP AT THINKSPACE:

Feb. 5th – Feb. 26th, 2011

Kelly Vivanco 'Springs To Mind' in our main gallery + Anthony Clarkson's 'A Time To Forget' in our project room

thinkspace

6009 Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

#310.558.3375

Web: www.thinkspacegallery.com Blog: www.sourharvest.com

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