

CURIOT

Act 1: Warped Passage

May 28 - June 18, 2016

Thinkspace (Los Angeles) - is pleased to present new works by Curiot in *Warped Passage*, opening May 28. Michoacán artist Favio Martinez, known by his pseudonym Curiot, currently lives and works in Mexico City. Raised in Costa Mesa, California, the artist relocated to Mexico, following his completion of high school, hoping to reconnect with his estranged cultural roots. He completed his BFA at the Universidad Michoacana in 2008 and since then has continued to hone his unique aesthetic in both his ambitiously scaled site-specific public mural pieces and his gallery works.

Renowned for his experimentally surreal and colorfully vibrant imagery, Curiot creates visual worlds with an anthropological suggestion. Simultaneously ancient and contemporary, they're inspired by Mexican folklore, handicraft traditions, textiles, and patterns. His larger-than-life sensibility often borders on the abstract, as he combines the human and the animal into awe-worthy aggregates. Ambiguously totemic and ancestral, the works have been known to explore the primal coexistence, and contention, of the human and natural worlds. An advocate for the preservation and respect of this tenuous balance, Curiot has created a mythological shorthand with a wealth of characters and recurring symbols, immediately recognizable as his own.

In this new body of work, Curiot explores transition and metaphysical passage, working intentionally within a loosely defined future tense. In this dizzying new quasi-futuristic realm, the mythological creatures of his self-devised mythology have passed on, transmogrified, and are reincarnated as depictions of deities and icons for worship. Exploring both loss and expulsion, metamorphosis and inheritance, Curiot offers a labyrinthine splitting of worlds and paths.

The breaking of light will offer first site of the path within paths, at times intertwined or straight, split into two or three or four, hidden exits and glowing welcomes. As some tunnels cave in behind you, one may think, what if? But does it really matter, each road that one takes is that of the unknown; unexplored experiences which build upon a dream, a dream we all share, that slowly unravels within our time. The mirage will remain for others to probe, vanity fades, knowledge transfers, we wake once again to another bright door. - CURIOT

Act 1: Warped Passage will feature a collection of new paintings, two new digital editions, an adventurous installation component, including musical accompaniment from Franz (Pira MD Records) as well as an offsite mural completed for the RFK Schools project via Branded Arts.

JAMES BULLOUGH

Breaking Point

May 28 - June 18, 2016

Concurrently on view in the Thinkspace project room is *Breaking Point*, featuring new works by American, Berlin-based, artist James Bullough. A technically accomplished painter who creates with a staggering degree of detail, Bullough begins with figurative imagery, disjuncting and levitating its fragmented parts impressionistically to build dynamic surfaces that read with startling affective resonance.

In this new series of works, Bullough captures moments of existential fracture, disruption, and personal breach through the expressive movement of the body, asking his models to channel personal memory and to recall experiences of "breaking" at the moment of their capture. Working with dancers from Berlin, Bullough begins with the body in motion, arrested in an expanse of negative space, then disassembles it further, splicing, striating, and fragmenting its surfaces and planes. The models remain anonymous and faceless throughout, an omission intended to reaffirm the symbolic universality of the emotive physical gesture.

His technique and style have evolved significantly over the past three years. Earlier works involved graphic additions and interruptions, with areas of the figure clearly removed. Now the works are increasingly dynamic as the bodies' interrupted segments have been shifted and activated, rather than deleted. Areas of the figure are superimposed, vibrating with transitional movement rather than apprehended in static still. Each piece is created primarily with a minute #1 brush, a preference the artist has cultivated for its control and detail. Working on canvas, reclaimed wood flooring from a Berlin dance studio, and panel, Bullough continues to experiment with his materials and ground.

UR NEW YORK

Destroy'ed and Rebuilt

May 28 - June 18, 2016

On view in the gallery's office space is *Destroy'ed and Rebuilt*, a special presentation of works by UR New York: Fernando Romero and Mike Baca, a graffiti duo from New York City. Known for their urban-industrial aesthetic, the pair has been collaborating since 2006, combining graffiti, photography, screen-printing and graphic design in their impactful mixed-media works.

With a philanthropic mission to connect to youth culture and to share the powerful potential of self-expression, the duo embraces experimentation and the diversity of context and environment. Born and bred in New York City, URNYC began making art on the streets and in the city's subway system. Now, their work has been showcased internationally, in museums, galleries, and cultural platforms across the world.