

Thinkspace Projects presents:

SUPER A (aka Stefan Thelen)
Apostasy

MANUEL ZAMUDIO
Sunsets In The Apocalypse

KYLE BRYANT
Out of Many, One

December 12, 2020 through January 2, 2021

SUPER A (aka Stefan Thelen)
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Dutch artist Stefan Thelen, better known by his moniker Super A, creates hyperreal murals and studio paintings that explore the world of human contradiction. Through the combination of realistic and surreal imagery, Super A is often dealing in visual metaphor and social messaging, questioning the ideologies and cultural myths we've become too complacent at accepting without critique. Interested in the interrogation of objectivity and its ultimate exposure as a construct, Super A combines elements of realism with the free reign of fiction to produce unexpected results.

Apostasy is Thinkspace's third solo presentation of Super A's work. His well-established alias is a creative alter identity created to explore more contentious and difficult subject matter as a muralist in the public sphere. His most recent body of works strips cartoon, fairytale, or pop cultural archetypes of their fantasy and veneer, revealing the realistic or historical counterparts beneath them. An apt commentary on the dissimulation of popular cultural mythology, Super A deconstructs its theater.

Super A is a mystery that leans on the art doing most of the talking for Stefan Thelen, taking the viewer into a wonderland walking down a yellow brick road in which Thelen's figurative and modern surrealist compositions are providing playful puzzles to decipher.

MANUEL ZAMUDIO
Sunsets In The Apocalypse

Manuel Zamudio comes to us from the depths of the talent rich city of McAllen, Texas. He was born in Mexico City, DF, and has made his way to Texas since 1992 at the age of 5. While dealing with the challenges that often come with assimilating to a starkly different culture at a very young age, Zamudio found refuge by immersing himself in art. As a self-taught artist, Zamudio started perfecting his technique by replicating comic books, without knowing or understanding the human figure, and the concepts of color schemes. Once Zamudio grew older he started taking an interest in the urban culture of South Texas, learning color scheme, perception, shadow and so on from local graffiti artist.

Zamudio's new line of work has been immensely inspired by great works of cinematography, street art, and post-apocalyptic sci-fi novels. Using portraits as a snapshot of his own movie, blending reality with the surreal. Zamudio's new work will be exploring new methods on how to bring cinematography onto the canvas. As Zamudio writes:

"What remains of aesthetics in a fading world? When the veil of order crumbles and the weariness of decay sets in, the soul of a society thrives, or dies based solely on the affirmations of its unique individuals upholding what identity there is left.

Although despair can weigh heavily even on the lightest of humanity, perseverance in the face of hopelessness, or even madness, can become the strongest fight against inhumane desolation. In the last vestiges of a dying culture, the embers of expression are imbued in even the dimmest of lights."

KYLE BRYANT
Out of Many, One

Kyle Bryant graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design with a BFA in 2008 and has been perfecting his special brand of what he refers to as "Present Surrealism" ever since, an aesthetic bordering on the edge of a believable reality. A fine artist focusing on woodcut printmaking, Bryant recently took his oeuvre into a new direction, by adding layering and dimension to his wood-carved works.

"The work that I create takes a traditional medium and expands upon it by completely dismantling it. After years of creating woodblock prints I decided to take one apart, carve each piece individually, and put it back together in three-dimensional form. The result is a stunning combination of artistic expression, tradition, craftsmanship and an explosion of color." – Kyle Bryant