"ABUNDANCE & ABSURDITY": The Painter’s Poetry of Alex Cutler

Lorin Gallery is honored to announce the opening of "Abundance & Absurdity," a comprehensive solo exhibition of Alex Cutler's interdisciplinary oeuvre. On view from 10th June, this avant-garde display of Cutler's paintings, drawings, and poetry offers audience an expansive journey through Cutler's eclectic body of work, encompassing various genres and stylistic shifts. Cutler’s creative lens uncovers the intriguing relationship between the abundance and the absurdity that underscores our visual reality, offering a new paradigm that boldly challenges and embraces these extremes.

Cutler's artistic practice, manifesting in a multitude of styles, invites audiences on a unique exploration of the dichotomies and paradoxes of our visual world. The exhibited works are an in-depth presentation of Cutler’s transgressive and non-traditional methods of an artistic reception facing a myriad of visual elements, weaving together disparate concepts, colors, and forms into a cogent visual tapestry. Through a layered pastiche of iconography, his compositions capture an array of images, objects, and typography that allude to the abundant and sometimes absurd facets of everyday life.

To portray chaos is as important as creating a new order, just as recognizing the abundance is as significant as pointing out the absurdity. At the heart of Cutler's oeuvre lies a juxtaposition of stylistic elements that range from the mundane to the surreal. His creations are both an ode to and a critique of contemporary visual culture, striking a balance between the ephemeral and the eternal, the common and the exceptional. It's this creative tension that adds a distinctive allure to his paintings, drawings, and poetry, infusing them with vitality and depth. His studio practice emerges as a space where creativity knows no bounds, resulting in a harmonious amalgamation of motifs, color schemes, and forms that elevate the banal and celebrate the grand, fostering an aesthetic democracy where every element holds its own significance.

Apart from the meta-images created in Cutler’s large-scale paintings, the smaller size drawings, which nonetheless carry an equivalent visual gravity, showcase a light-weight, flexible field for Cutler’s artistic experiments. In the same way that a novelist may start a trilogy with a paragraph, or a poet finds her tone with a line, Cutler’s drawings work as the preliminary stage for his grand visualization, a subdued, intentionally-reserved entrance to his otherwise overwhelming oeuvre. Originally these drawings were scattered in his numerous sketchbooks that he has kept in his studio, during his worldwide travel and formative years in the America Southwest, and they provide a precious glimpse into Cutler’s deconstruction and reconstruction using mundane visual elements.

Adding depth to this retrospective, Cutler's private writings will also be on display. His poetry, a synecdoche of his mind's playful yet poignant rumination, underscores the symbiotic relationship between visual and literary artistry. His verse, often infused with humor and depth, offers a candid glimpse into the artist's cognitive terrain, a landscape of serious contemplation and playfulness. This integration of visual and written works provides a comprehensive view into Cutler's artistic processes, revealing the fascinating confluence of his conscious and subconscious explorations.

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**Alex Cutler**

Born in California in 1988 and spending his formative years traversing America’s Southwest, Cutler has an inherent engagement with the visual vernacular of the American landscape. After receiving his BFA from the Metropolitan State University of Denver, Cutler's works have been exhibited in Los Angeles, Denver, and Santa Fe, and have found a home in private collections across the country.

Cutler’s paintings are reminiscent of the Pop masters of the mid-twentieth century with his application of bright, bold colors and use of subjects mined from popular culture. While he finds inspiration from an array of sources such as magazines, websites, and his own neighborhood surroundings, Cutler’s fascination with the pureness of utilitarian objects has created unique, recurring motifs throughout his work. Through the careful and deliberate use of color, collage, and dimensional composition, his paintings reveal the beauty and simplicity of quotidian items ranging from a No. 2 pencil to a steel hand saw - tools that have resisted much evolution for their perfect form and function.

**SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2022 INCOGNITO, ICA, Los Angeles, CA

2021 High Desert High!, Smoke the Moon, Santa Fe, NM

2020 Fragments & Support, Rubine Red Gallery, Palm Springs, CA 2019 On Local Time, Rubine Red Gallery, Palm Springs, CA

2018 Continental Breakfast, Werkärtz, Los Angeles, CA

2015 Group Show, Dateline Gallery, Denver, CO

2013 Solo Exhibition, Point Gallery, Denver, CO