



AVENUE DES ARTS

Contemporary Art Gallery

504 W 22nd St  
New York, NY 10011

Opening Saturday  
April 24th  
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM



Matt Gondek, *Love* (2021), Acrylic on Canvas 38 x 60 in |  
96.52 x 152.4 cm

## ORIGINAL CHARACTER

MATT GONDEK

Opening Saturday, April 24th  
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Avenue des Arts is so excited to announce the solo exhibition of the celebrated, world-renowned artist Matt Gondek. A deconstructive pop artist, Gondek recontextualizes icons from pop culture, cartoons, and comic books. His work often features Mickey Mouse, Bugs Bunny, and The Simpsons. After a long period of self reflection, Gondek brings us a new and exciting collection of art featuring a completely new character: himself. This injection of Gondek-Simpson might make "ORIGINAL CHARACTER" the most introspective, funniest, and most sophisticated show we've seen yet.

The show also includes a series of humorous, satirical narrative paintings inspired by pictures taken in photo booths which feature many of Gondek's distinctive cartoon characters. In addition to large paintings, the exhibit will spotlight a series of line drawings and screen prints which are not only sophisticated in concept, but also in technique. Gondek introduces new, refined techniques that draw the viewer into the excitement of the dramatic, narrative cartoons.

Come join us in New York City to celebrate the opening of this incredible pop-up exhibition, "ORIGINAL CHARACTER," on Saturday, April 24th from 12 to 6 PM. The exhibition will be open to the public from Saturday, April 24th to Saturday, May 1st.



AVENUE DES ARTS

Contemporary Art Gallery

504 W 22nd St  
New York, NY 10011

Opening Saturday  
April 24th  
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM



MATT GONDEK, B. 1982, PITTSBURGH, PA

Matt Gondek is a Los Angeles Pop Artist who paints Deconstructed Pop Icons. He was born in Pittsburgh PA, but moved to Los Angeles at the age of 31.

Matt knew instinctively that he was an artist at a very early age, creating his first work of art - a comic book - while still in elementary school. He is still painting comic book characters, but these days, they are more often seen on the sides of buildings or hanging in a contemporary art gallery. His first real creative job was as a digital illustrator, creating graphics for licensed clothing for the music industry. His proficiency allowed him freedom, and eventually led to him opening his own clothing and art boutique on his 30th birthday. Unfortunately, he quickly realized owning a boutique wasn't for him.

When the store's one year lease was up, Matt closed shop and spent three months struggling with indecision and lack of direction. On a whim he picked up a paintbrush, inspired by a big stack of Mickey Mouse sketches he had begun for a freelance project. In one sketch Mickey's head was exploding. When he finished his first painting, he began another, and then another. At that moment he had developed his signature style of painting, and a few years later is still creating the deconstructed cartoon characters and fractured pop icons of our childhood.

Drawn to the clean lines, bright colors and accessibility of comic books, cartoons and video games, Matt's skill lies in his ability to replicate the clean graphic style of digital illustration in his paintings. A self-taught artist, Matt's credo is "Figure it out as you go along."