CAT ART SHOW

CAT ART SHOW 3: THE SEQUEL RETURNS AGAIN WITH SOME SERIOUS CATTITUDE TOWARDS OUR PRESIDENT, DIVERSITY, GENDER, RELIGION, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND SUSHI

Over 140 works by 100 renowned and emerging international artists, including **Mark Ryden**, **Devan Shimoyama**, **Tasya Van Ree**, **Ellen von Unwerth**, and **Casey Weldon** to be showcased during the 10-day exhibition in Los Angeles.



(Rose Freymuth-Frazier, Divine Intervention, 2018, oil on linen, courtesy of the artist and Cat Art Show)

ON VIEW FROM JUNE 14 - 24, 2018

12PM —5PM Daily

Think Tank Gallery, 939 Maple Avenue, 2nd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90015 Admission is free Monday through Friday courtesy a generous donation by cat art loving benefactor

OPENING NIGHT THURSDAY, JUNE 14

VIP Opening: 6–8:30PM Public Opening: 8:30–11PM

PURCHASE TICKETS HERE

ADDITIONAL EXHIBITION RELATED PROGRAMMING:

FELINE FROLIC THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Lecture by Dr. Paul Koudounaris and burlesque PURRformances by Vanessa Burgundy and Iza la Vamp 7–10PM

CLOSING PARTY SATURDAY. JUNE 23

Benefiting <u>Kitten Rescue LA</u> 7–10PM

HIGH-RES IMAGERY

Select high-resolution images of the works are available here.

LOS ANGELES, CA–May 1, 2018. <u>Cat Art Show</u>, the world's most popular biennial art exhibition dedicated to the feline is back for a third time, opening Thursday, June 14, 2018 at Think Tank Gallery in Downtown Los Angeles. Beneficiaries of the exhibition include <u>The Ian Somerhalder Foundation</u> and <u>Kitten Rescue LA</u>.

Cat Art Show 3: The Sequel Returns Again will feature more than 100 globally-recognized and emerging artists, including Lola Gil, Travis Louie, Daniel Maidman, Brandon Boyd, Brandi Milne, Marion Peck, Mick Rock, Edel Rodriguez, Mark Ryden, Devan Shimoyama, Tasya Van Ree, Ellen von Unwerth, and Casey Weldon, among others. From as far afield as Cuba, Japan, Russia, Serbia and the UK, the roster reflects a similarly diverse variety of cat breeds including Maine Coons, Russian Blues, Siamese, Sphynxes, and Tabbies depicted across a range of media including painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, collage and embroidery.







(Annie Montgomerie, *Owner*, 2018, *Don't Know What Ya Lookin At*, 2018, *Everybody Wants to Be a...*, 2018. All works made of muslin, cotton, silk and wool, with doll abdomen and legs, courtesy of the artist and Cat Art Show)

As a major international center for contemporary visual culture, and creative home to artists, designers, architects, writers, filmmakers, and musicians, Los Angeles continues to host and celebrate immersive exhibitions that straddle fine art and popular culture to entertain and educate. Cat Art Show 1 and 2 attracted 4,500 visitors (2014) and 7,000 visitors (2016) to the city and more than 9,000 visitors are anticipated this year, spurred by a catatonic social media reach of 8 million artist and fan followers.

Current social and political issues take a central place in the themes for this year's exhibition with works directly targeting President Trump and pop culture icons such as Kanye West and Taylor Swift, but also touching upon topical issues surrounding identity politics.

American painter Rose Freymuth-Frazier depicts a grandiose Persian furball in classical style defiantly pawing an overturned and prostrate Donald Trump (a best-selling pet doll), wrestled to the ground in the aptly titled *Divine Intervention*; British artist Annie Montgomerie presents three gender-specific and ethnically diverse sculpted, anthropomorphic doll-like kitties as an ode to childhood memories; Hugo Martinez, who formerly worked in the studio of David LaChapelle, showcases social-media phenomenon Princess Cheeto as delectable sushi-muse in *Rollin with my Homies*, and the devil's in the detail in Dr. Paul Koudounaris's *Mewcifer*, a super cute, not quite-macabre Tabby, inspired in part thanks to the artist's extraordinarily cooperative muse, a rescue cat named Baba — all continue the legacy of renowned artists, aka "huge cat guys of the art world" Pierre Bonnard, Salvador Dalí, Wassily Kandinsky, Gustav Klimt, Henri Matisse, Georgia O'Keeffe, Pablo Picasso, and of course, Andy Warhol. Among the participating artists, some have never produced a work of a domestic cat prior to the their involvement in Cat Art Show. Shepard Fairey's first ever domesticated cat work, *Radical Cat*, made for the inaugural edition in 2014 was a sure homage to the African-American revolutionary party, The Black Panthers.

"The enigmatic feline has been a source of artistic inspiration for thousands of years," said Susan Michals, creator and curator of the show. "One moment they can be a best friend, the next, an antagonist. They are the perfect subject matter, and works of art, all by themselves."

CAT ART SHOW 3 FEATURED ARTISTS INCLUDE:

Adam Vinson, Alexey Sovertkov, Andrej Dubravsky, Anita Wong, Annie Montgomerie, Adipocere, Arna Miller, Bill Barminski, Brandi Milne, Brandon Boyd, Britt Ehringer, Camilla D'Errico, Casey Weldon, Cate White, Charlie Becker, Chiaki Okada, CYRCLE, Daniel Maidman, Dawn Bowery, Devan Shimoyama, Diane Hoeptner, Edel Rodriguez, Ellen von Unwerth, Elliot Jackson, Emma Mount, Gay Summer Rick, Gosha Levochkin, Horitomo, Ineke Kamps, J. Morrison, Jason Edward Davis, Jeffery Page, Jessica Louise Thompson, Joann Biondi, Kathy Taslitz, Katsunori Miyagi, Kelly Berg, Kim McCarty, Korin Faught, Laura Keenados, Lauren Benrimon, Lauren Rinaldi, Lisa Lebofsky, Lola Gil, Lorena Toomey, Lucia Heffernan, Lyn Winter, Marc Dennis, Marina Dieul, Mari Shimizu, Marion Peck, Mark Ryden, Martin Hsu, Martin Wittfooth, Mary Alayne Thomas, Matt Bober, Michael Caines, Michael Korda, Michael Lindsay-Hogg, Michael Mararian, Mick Rock, Midori Furuhashi, Natalia Fabia, Paul Koudounaris, Penelope Gazin, Princess Cheeto, Rachel Schlueter, Ravi Zupa, Rebecca Artemisa, Rich Hardcastle, Rob Reger, Robbie Conal, Rose Freymuth-Frazier, Scarlett River, Scott Hove, Seonna Hong, Sonya Palencia, Stephanie Han, Steve Cope, Steve Rudin, Sugar Fueled, Tasya Van Ree, Thiago Goms, Tiffany Sage, Tobias Keene, Travis Louie, Vanessa Prager, Vanessa Stockard, Yael Hoenig, Zane York...and more to be announced.

Notable artists who participated in Cat Art Show 2014 and 2016 include Antony Micallef, Barry McGee, FAILE, Gary Baseman, Guy Denning, Britt Ehringer, Tracey Emin, Shepard Fairey, Ray Caesar, Norman Reedus and Mark Ryden.





(Paul Koudounaris, *Mewcifer*, 2018, digital photographic print, courtesy the artist and Cat Art Show. Hugo Martinez ("Princess Cheeto"), *Rollin with my Homies*, 2018, digital photographic print 1/10, courtesy the artist and Cat Art Show.)

Every year, Cat Art Show donates a portion of its proceeds to a cat-related organization. Works on view are for sale and a percentage of sales will benefit the <u>lan Somerhalder Foundation</u>, founded by actors and philanthropists Ian Somerhalder and Nikki Reed to empower, educate and collaborate with people and projects to positively impact the planet and its creatures. <u>Kitten Rescue</u> is the beneficiary of the Closing Night event titled *The Kitty Cuddle Party*, with adoptable kitten onsite, on Saturday, June 23, 2018. Tickets are \$25 with 10% going to the charity.

Other nocturnal activities include *Feline Frolic*, an evening of famous feline history and Purrlesque taking place on Thursday, June 21 from 7-10PM, including a lecture by participating artist Dr. Paul Koudounaris and burlesque PURRformances by Vanessa Burgundy and Iza la Vamp. More to be announced.

Prices of the works range from \$300 to \$150,000. For more information on available works, please contact: team@catartshow.com.

Admission is now free on weekdays thanks to the generous donation of a cat art loving benefactor. Evening events are ticketed (varying in price) with limited capacity.. More information, a schedule of events, and a link to purchase tickets can be found at www.catartshow.com.

Generous support for the exhibition is provided by CatCon, Lagunitas and Vetted Care.

ABOUT CAT ART SHOW

Curator Susan Michals created *Cat Art Show* in 2014 to critical and popular acclaim. A journalist and collector, she covers the intersection of art, culture and celebrity. Her work has been featured in media outlets such as *The Wall Street Journal, Vanity Fair Online, artnet News, The Observer,* and *Huffington Post.* She owns one cat, a Maine Coon, named Miss Kitty Pretty Girl. Michals also created <u>CatCon</u>, the largest pop culture cat-centric convention in the world in 2015, taking place yearly in Pasadena, California. Thanks to both of her initiatives over \$140K has been raised for cat-related charities and over 300 cats have been adopted. Due to popular demand this year's CatCon convention opening August 4-5, 2018 has already sold out to exhibitors.

Cat Art Show is produced in association with promoter, producer and curator, Daniel Salin. Widely recognized for his production of Banksy's 2006 landmark Los Angeles show, Barely Legal, Salin was also

part of the team behind Mr. Brainwash's debut, seen in the Academy Award nominated film, *Exit Through the Gift Shop*. He regularly works with artists like Vhils, D*Face, and JR.

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