

Alex Becerra / James O. Clark / Gerald Davis / Radamés "Juni" Figueroa / Yann Gerstberger / Jocko Weyland

Hit Pause: "Sometimes you just have to pee in the sink"

23 January – 28 February 2015

Opening Reception Friday 23 January 2015, 7-10pm

ltd los angeles is pleased to present a group exhibition, *Hit Pause: "Sometimes you just have to pee in the sink"* featuring Alex Becerra, James O. Clark, Gerald David, Radamés "Juni" Figueroa, Yann Gertberger and Jocko Weyland. These six international artists highlight the absurdity of the human condition through their manipulation of banal scenes or through moments as an outsider, in this exhibition, co-curated by Heather Hubbs and Shirley Morales.

The large-scale paintings, thickly coated with flamboyant colors, embolden the room and, at once, draw the viewers into the title of the exhibition, sparking a natural freeze in which one is immediately confronted with the impact of the pieces. Centered in the space is James O. Clark's *T-H-C* urinal, which looks towards the entrance, providing a greeting for guests. Its mothballs and neon 'R. Mutt' sign are a post-modern nod to Dadaist great, Duchamp. Tucked in a corner is *Hit Pause*, Clark's technological 'toilet' that invites viewers to trigger an ambiguous liquid through its tubes by stepping on its a foot pedal. Both of his sculptures glorify the ultimate private moment while inviting outside interaction. The exhibition immediately frames itself in an art historical context, as well as in the frame of the outsider. The nature of group exhibition welcomes the outsider inside.

Jocko Weyland plays with technological perspective, in a natural landscape, providing a sense of straddling two worlds. Alex Becerra also straddles between realized and imagined worlds, portraying an 'idealized' form with thick outlines on loose female figures, though, in reality, his forms are elaborated. This plays upon the title *I love blondes*, in which the blonde shown is far from the refined 'blonde' symbol we have come to know. In *Crystal- fresh !*, the title may be referring to the brand of Champagne, the glass top that the figures seem to be standing upon, or the name of one of the female subjects. In constructing a voyeuristic scene, Becerra plays with gender roles, never quite committing to one cause, where the beauty exudes from his use of color and figures, rather than the abrasive subjects. Gerald Davis' *Woman Bending Over* also invites the voyeur through his use of vivid color, in his angular portrayal of a woman. The association, due to its title, is that this woman is alluring, though this link can only be made from the captivating colors.

"Juni" Figueroa portrays *Captain Güiro*, amidst a sea of expressive color. His facial expression of shock, with his mouth agape, suggests that he has 'hit pause' on the scene, juxtaposing the necessity of motion implied with the real shoes. The shoes placed in the work give the idea that

Güiro may just leave the painting at any moment, bringing him to vivid reality, though the figure itself is abstracted with otherworldly features. Yann Gerstberger's use of cotton with natural and synthetic dyes to create his tapestries pay homage to the lineage of craft arts, while simultaneously responding to its role in the current consumer culture.

Alex Becerra was born in Valencia, CA 1989. He received a BFA from Otis College of Art in 2011. Becerra has an upcoming solo booth in Zona Maco Sur in Mexico City, MX in February 2015. He currently lives and works in Inglewood, CA.

James O. Clark was born in Coatesville, PA. He received his BS from Kutztown State University, Kutztown, PA in 1974. Clark lives and works in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, NY.

Gerald Davis was born in Pittsburg, PA in 1974. He graduated from School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1999. Davis currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

Radamés "Juni" Figueroa was born in Bayamón, Puerto Rico in 1982. He received his BFA from Escuela de Artes Plásticas in 2007. Figueroa currently lives and works in San Juan, PR.

Yann Gerstberger was born in Cognes sur Mer, FR in 1983. He studied at Beaux Arts de Marseille. Gerstberger lives and works in Mexico City, MX.

Jocko Weyland was born Helsinki, FN in 1967. Weyland graduated with a B.A. from University of California, San Diego in 1989. He lives and works in Tucson, AZ.