

Matthew Craven

(American, b. 1981, lives in Los Angeles, CA)

Matthew Craven challenges the sweeping narratives of American history textbooks, appropriating images of historical figures and sites and defacing or reconfiguring them within new aesthetic compositions. In combinations of illustration, collage, and painting, a march of tribal chieftains, Masonic leaders, and American generals and presidents appears in his images, their faces blotted out or colonized by Craven's trademark geometric patterns. With his surreal mash-ups of historical references composed on antiquated paper, Craven creates his own pared-down symbols and mythologies. Many of Craven's images are ambiguous, resisting cohesive narratives or easy interpretation; the artist has said that his compositions are not dictated by any political agenda but are based solely on aesthetic consideration. Matthew Craven was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California. He received his BFA from Michigan State University and his MFA from the School of Visual Arts, New York.

101 / EXHIBIT

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Education

2010 MFA; School of Visual Arts; New York, NY

2004 BFA; Michigan State University; East Lansing, MI

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2017 *Prospectus*, 101/EXHIBIT, Los Angeles, CA
EarthTones for Marfa Myths, Marfa Studio of Art, Marfa, TX
Two-Person Booth w/ Marjolijn de Wit, ART Los Angeles Contemporary, Asya Geisberg Gallery
- 2016 *QUIET EARTH*, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
MONUMENTS, David Shelton Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2015 Solo Booth, Art on Paper, FMLY, New York, NY
- 2014 Solo Booth, Volta Art Fair, DCKT, New York, NY
- 2013 Get This! Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Oblivious Path, DCKT, New York, NY
Repeater, Popp's Packing, Detroit, MI
- 2012 *FRGMNTS*, Gallery Hijinks, San Francisco, CA 2011
Allegra LaViola, two-person show with HuskMitNavn, New York, NY
- 2010 *Lordz of the Flyze*, two-person show with Julian Duron, Nudashank, Baltimore, MD
Future Myths, Grizzly Grizzly; Philadelphia, PA
- 2009 *History Is Written By The Winners*, Marvelli Gallery, New York, NY

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2017 *Language of Objects*, University of Buffalo Art Galleries, Buffalo, NY
Underlying System Is Not Known, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *How High?*, curated by Ryan Travis Christian, Left Field Gallery, San Luis Obispo, CA
Texas Contemporary, David Shelton Gallery, Houston, TX
Papered Stories: 14 Artists Dealing with Paper, LMAK, New York, NY
Revel, curated by Lauren Gidwitz of Thred Projects, Kunstraum Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Mixed Use, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA
Art on Paper, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
- 2015 *UR SPRUNG*, Muster-Meier, Bern, CH
Tomorrow, Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA
Mysterious Muck, curated by Clark Goolsby, Circuit12, Dallas, TX
UNTITLED, Asya Gallery, Miami, FL
Texas Contemporary, David Shelton Gallery, Houston, TX
Pattern Chaos, Cinders Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Fresh Prints, PS1 Book Fair, Long Island City, NY
Amsterdam Drawing, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, NE
Reminiscence, Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, NE
Ducks! LA, Minotaur Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 *Share This! Appropriation After Cynicism*, Denny Gallery, New York, NY
Ducks!, curated by Ryan Travis Christian, Greenpoint Terminal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
NSFW, Richard Heller Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Graphic Thoughts, CES Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA
Volta Basel with DCKT, Basel, CH
Space//Squared, White Walls, San Francisco, CA

- 2013 *Totems*, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
Mini Galerie, Amsterdam, NE
American Collage, Gerald Peters Gallery, New York, NY
Paper Vernacular, with House of the Nobleman, Cutlog Art Fair, New York, NY
Wider than a Postcard, Breeze Block Gallery, Portland, OR
Atmospheric Pressure, Williamsburg Art & Historical Center, Brooklyn, NY
No Longer Presidents But Prophets, Delicious Spectacle, Washington D.C.
The Scenery Changes Three Times, with blonde art books, Schema Projects, Brooklyn, NY
One and Done, LaunchPad, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 *Strange Lands*, curated by Christopher Daniels, Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York, NY
Fun New Tribe, AAF, New York, NY
Black Foliage, 48 Bowery, New York, NY / Nudashank, Baltimore, MD
Where My Cones At?, curated by Ryan Travis Christian, Double Break, San Diego, CA / POV evolving, Los Angeles, CA
Portrait of a Generation, The Hole, New York, NY
Whats The Point?, Jen Bekman Gallery, New York, NY
Rising & Falling, Butter Projects, Detroit, MI
In The Corner Of My Eye, Drake Hotel, Toronto, ON
Wise Blood, Field Projects, New York, NY
FreshstART, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 *PaperChasers*, Nudashank, Baltimore, MD
ART Toronto, DCKT NY, Toronto, ON
Reconstruct/ Deconstruct History, Like the Spice, Brooklyn, NY
Nothing Gold Can Stay, Live with Animals, Brooklyn, NY
Shape of the Line, Dunham Place Salon, New York, NY
Life Iconic, curated by Jiha Moon, Get This! Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2010 *re: Context*, Number 35, New York, NY
Black and White and Read All Over, NP Contemporary Art Center, New York, NY
Aqua, Nudashank, Miami, FL
Plus One, curated by Dan Cameron, Perry Rubenstein Gallery, New York, NY
Uncommon Commencements, Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert, CA
American Iconography, curated by John Friedman, Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York, NY
Highly Decorated, Nudashank @ Fountain, New York, NY
Thank You, But It is Actually on Purpose, curated by Augusto Arbizu, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
- 2009 *Electric Kool-Aid*, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008 *A Friend Indeed*, Katzen Center, American University, Washington D.C.
- 2005 *New Work* (solo), Fine Arts Gallery, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI
- 2004 Administrative Show, Fine Arts Gallery, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI
Hit to Death In the Future Head, Gallery 114, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2018 [forthcoming], 101/EXHIBIT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 *Character Traits*, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013 *Acid Summer*, DCKT, New York, NY
- 2012 *Black Foliage*, Nudashank, Baltimore, MD / Chinatown Arcade, New York, NY