



ADAM BERIS

Adam Beris (b. 1987, Milwaukee, WI) makes paintings that celebrate and challenge traditional relationships between object, subject, foreground, and background. Beris' primary action in the studio is squeezing paint from tubes. Deftly extruding streams of unadulterated color into an array of symbols, characters, food, ideas, and abstractions, Beris has created an ever-expanding lexicon of pictographs that are informed by the shapes of language, infographics, and the pervasive influence of social media. Aligned in grids, Beris' glyphs function like a lost codec of a childhood dream, but tangled amongst the blades of extruded paint grass, they resemble the refuse of a careless and anthropocentric society—and to prove his point Beris embeds litter from walks in his neighborhood in between painting sessions.

Beris received a dual degree in Painting and Creative Writing from Kansas City Art Institute in 2009. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at venues including MCC Longview Cultural Center in Lee's Summit, MO; Over the Influence in Hong Kong and Los Angeles, CA; Y53 and Fabien Castanier Gallery in Los Angeles, CA; The Omaha Creative Institute in Omaha, NE; and OCHI in Los Angeles, CA and Sun Valley, ID. Beris currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.



LILIAN MARTINEZ

Lilian Martinez (b. 1986, Chicago, IL) earned a BFA in Photography from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. Alongside her studio-based practice, Martinez operates BFGF, a lifestyle art brand that produces accessible and functional art objects. Martinez's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at venues including the Taubman Museum of Art in Roanoke, VA; The Naughton Gallery in Belfast, Ireland; Gallery Commune in Tokyo, Japan; Taymour Grahne in London, UK (forthcoming); SWISH Projects in San Diego, CA (forthcoming); and OCHI in Sun Valley, ID and Los Angeles, CA. Her work has been featured in publications such as The New York Times, ARTnews, apartamento, Juxtapoz, LALA Magazine, Nationale, ArtPractical, and AUTRE.

Lilian Martinez' work blends representation and iconographies of past with present and imaged future, combining classical architectural elements with contemporary pop cultural references to create the settings for her portraits, landscapes, and still lifes. Her flat, bold style recalls iconic predecessors like Matisse, while her impetus to center brown bodies that have historically been essentialized, if not omitted altogether, from these sorts of historical artworks recontextualizes the roles of the artist and subject at once. Martinez' figures are usually engaged in everyday leisure activities, and her work indulges color and mood, all while maintaining a charming nonchalance. Even in the works bold simplicity, a matrix of historical and cultural signifiers exposes a boundlessness, both in connection through nostalgic specificity and limitlessness in the lack thereof.