

ALEXANDER CARVER

Working in both painting and film, Carver constructs intricate discursive systems that fuse diagrammatic planning, historical artifacts, natural detritus, and appropriated text, all contained within the picture plane to produce skeins of critical inquiry. He builds up his paintings like active membranes that receive pictographic subject matter through indirect techniques, such as digital image transfer, frottage, stenciling, screen printing, and scraping. The worlds that emerge through Carver's work suggest an uncanny reflection of our own, as though peering through frictional, over-engineered realities that distort rather than cohere. In his paintings, densely textured overlays of different forms of image production seem to oscillate, phase, and emerge at the direction of the eye, generating the sensation of one realm of information becoming visible only by way of another.

In *External Fixation*, his first solo exhibition at the gallery, Carver extended the allegory of painting as a proxy for the body to the extreme. With the painter qua surgeon, the artist's gesture becomes akin to either the cut or the suture, and the indirect address of the canvas parallels the contradictions of bodily intervention in modern surgery. As Carver writes, "Painting as a primitive form of cultural technology is abundant with all too-exploited analogies for the body and its viscera. Often, invoking such a metaphor, contemporary painting is described through anthropomorphic terms such as zombie or cadaver. These may be adequate terms for the suspension of the medium, analogically speaking, between autopsy and undead animism."

Alex Carver (b. 1984, Boise, Idaho) lives and works in New York and Boise. He earned an MFA from Columbia University, and a BFA from the Cooper Union. In 2021, Carver's work was featured in Potent Stem, his second solo exhibition at Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin, as well as Our Other Us, the 4th Art Encounters Biennial in Timisoara, Romania, curated by Mihnea Mircan and Kasia Redzisz. He had his first solo show, External Fixation, at Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York, in 2019. In 2018, he participated in the collaborative two-part painting show Bubble Revision, Miguel Abreu Gallery and Call Out Tools, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler with Avery Singer and Pieter Schoolwerth. His debut solo exhibition, Cell, was held at Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler in 2018. Carver's collaborative feature film with Daniel Schmidt, The Unity of All Things, was presented at the 2013 Locarno International Film Festival, Switzerland. Other film works have been shown in international venues and festivals such as Tate Modern (London, 2014), Berlinale (2015), and the Vancouver International Film Festival (2013).

Carver's work is held in the permanent collections of the Kistefos Museum (Norway), the Pinault Collection, and the Ståhl Collection (Norway). His second solo exhibition with Miguel Abreu Gallery will take place in the fall of 2022.

MIGUEL ABREU GALLERY

ALEXANDER CARVER

Born in Boise, ID, 1987
Lives and works in New York and Boise, ID

EDUCATION

2011
MFA, Columbia University, New York

2006
BFA, Cooper Union, New York

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022
Sequence 8: one work, one or two weeks, Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York

2021
Potent Stem, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin, Germany

2019
External Fixation, Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York

2018
Cell, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin

2017
Not A Metaphor, art berlin, Berlin

2011
Eminent Domain Name, Meulenstein, New York
Open to Below, Prentis Hall, New York

2007
Machines of Loving Grace, The Cooper Union, New York

2006
Oh My God You Should Have Been There, The Cooper Union, New York

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022
The Painter's New Tools, Nahmad Contemporary, New York

2021
Our Other US, *Art Encounters Biennial 2021*, Art Encounters Foundation, Timisoara, Romania
K as in knight, Helena Anrather, New York
Regroup Show, Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York

2018

Bubble Revision, Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York
Call Out Tools, Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler, Berlin

2011

Columbia University MFA Thesis, Fisher Landau Center, New York

2010

Columbia University First Year Exhibition, Wallach Gallery, New York

2009

Available Space, 260 Butler, New York

SCREENINGS

2018

Museum of Clouds, Starr Cinema, Tate Modern, London

2016

Friends with Benefits, Lincoln Center Film Society, New York

2015

Berlinale Internationale Filmfestspiele, Berlin
MONA Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart, Tasmania
OCAT (Contemporary Art Terminal), Shenzhen
R4, Paris

2014

BIM Biennale of Moving Images (touring)
Centre d'Art Contemporain, Biennale of Moving Images, Geneva
Chicago Underground Film Festival, Chicago
Cinema Project, Oregon
Fronteira International Documentary and Experimental Film Festival, Goiânia, Brazil
Videoclub, Kaleidoscope Magazine, Milan
Melbourne International Film Festival, Melbourne
Migrating Forms, BAM Rose Cinemas, New York
Northwest Film Forum, Oregon
IMS Instituto Moreira Salles, São Paulo

2013

Locarno Festival del Film, Locarno
Vancouver International Film Festival, Vancouver
Migrating Forms, BAM Rose Cinemas, New York

GRANTS & AWARDS

2015

NYSCA Individual Artist Grant

2011

Hayman Visual Arts Award
Agnes Martin Fellowship

2006

The Sara Cooper Hewitt Fund Prize for Excellence in Art, New York

2005

Steinberg Award, New York Central Art Supply, New York