



SIMON BREITBARD
FINE ARTS

JAY KELLY

BIO / ARTIST STATEMENT

Jay Kelly began his career in graphic design, yet quickly emerged as a notable fine artist with his unique style. Kelly's latest body of work is focused on torn collage elements. He starts with a source image that catches his eye for balance, depth, beauty, romance and overall visual intrigue. Sometimes he finds these images in books or magazines, like his artwork *No Matter Where*, which is from a Balenciaga ad in a vintage fashion magazine. Other times the source will be one of his own photographs (as in the case of the chandelier in *Just Possible*). Once he has chosen a particular image, he explores different sizing and cropping. He then proceeds to the formidable task of recreating it out of various bits of paper.

Kelly uses a range of collage material for their varied tones and content. For printed material, he uses vintage magazines, novels (both classics and the more obscure) and art history books. Depending on the age, condition and yellowing of the old book pages, he is able to get various shades of whites and tans. Kelly also uses a selection of different shades of black paper stock along with a range of hand dyed paper to round out his color palette. The process is labor intensive as he hand tears and glues each piece to slowly build shadows and highlights. Eventually when the overall image takes shape, he takes several trips across the studio to view the collage through squinted eyes to check proportions and make sure the shading all feels right. The bits of paper tend to get smaller and smaller as the piece nears completion.

Once the collage is complete, Kelly seals everything in a coat of gel medium and then under a thick coat of glossy resin adding a visual polish and uniting the varied elements into one cohesive work. Each piece's title comes from text that has found its way into the finished piece.

Kelly chose to paint with paper and various printed materials in order to achieve a unique depth to his work. By allowing the viewer to first see a complete, near photorealistic image from a distance, then at a closer look to explore the many individual textures and bits of text, he is able to add layers of meaning to each piece. Kelly loves the effect that thousands of little bits of paper, all taken out of context, come together to create something new. He feels art should inspire, transport and hopefully awe the viewer. This is his intention with this series of collage works.

EDUCATION

1997 B.A. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2016 ***New Work***, Whistler Contemporary, Whistler, BC

2015 ***Subtext***, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT

2014 ***Continued on the Next Page***, Gold Gallery, Boston, MA



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F I N E A R T S

- 2012 **Westward**, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
2011 **California Soul**, The Art District Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
VBAC, Van Buren Art Collective, Venice, CA
Loaded Symbols, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
2010 **Off The Grid**, The Art District Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
2009 **Sunset Boulevard**, Falcon, Hollywood, CA
Into The Bright Stillness, Phoenix Gallery, Park City, UT
2008 **Rawness & Polish**, Commissary Arts, Venice, CA
2007 **Lights Out**, Go Go Gallery, Miami, FL
2006 **First Words**, MW Gallery, Aspen, CO
First Words, Museum Works Gallery, New York, NY
First Words, Museum Works Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **Los Angeles Art Show**, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Paper Bound, Gold Gallery, Boston, MA
2015 **Winter Sol**, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
Love in Color, Art Project Paia, Maui, HI
SCOPE Miami, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Affordable Art Fair Singapore, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Silicon Valley, Stephanie Breitbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA
Houston Fine Art Fair, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Aspen, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Southampton, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Hamptons, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Affordable Art Fair Hong Kong, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
2015 **Art Market San Francisco**, Stephanie Breitbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA
Affordable Art Fair NYC, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Los Angeles Art Show, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
2014 **Winter Sol**, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
Red Dot Miami, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
I Love Maui, Art Project Paia, Maui, HI
Art Silicon Valley, Stephanie Brietbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA
Houston Fine Art Fair, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Aspen, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Hamptons, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art MRKT, Stephanie Brietbard Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
AAF NY, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
LA Art Show, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
2013 **Group Show**, Gold Gallery, Boston, MA



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- Winter Sol**, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
Surf's Up, Art Project Paia, Maui, HI
Red Dot Miami, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
artMRKT San Francisco, Stephanie Breitbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA
AAF Seattle, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Houston, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Hamptons, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Southampton, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Art Wynwood, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
LA Art Show, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
- 2012 **Red Dot during Art Basel Miami**, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Guided, Gold Gallery, Boston, MA
Art Hamptons, Axiom Contemporary, Santa Monica, CA
Massively Small, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
Winter Sol, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
LA Art Show, Axiom Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 **Massively Small**, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
Group Show, Mensing Galerie, Germany
Red Dot during Art Basel Miami, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Art Hamptons, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Afordable Art Fair NYC, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
San Francisco Fine Art Show, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Red Dot NYC, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
LA Art Show, The Art District Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 2010 **Aqua Hotel during Art Basel Miami**, Stephanie Breitbard Fine Arts, Mill Valley, CA
Red Dot during Art Basel Miami, Lurie Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Group Show, SOHO Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Rogue Wave II, Anderson Art Collective, Carpinteria, CA
- 2009 **Sensory Perception**, 87Zero, Honolulu, HI
Small Works Invitational, Phoenix Gallery, Park City, UT
Rogue Wave, Anderson Art Collective, Carpinteria, CA
- 2008 **Aqua Hotel during Art Basel Miami**, Commissary Arts, Venice, CA
Small Works Invitational, Phoenix Gallery, Park City, UT
Poker Night, Commissary Arts, Venice, CA
LA Art Show, MW Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Group Show, Mensing Galerie, Germany
- 2007 **Group Show during Art Basel**, Go Go Gallery, Miami, FL
Small Works Invitational, Phoenix Gallery, Park City, UT
Group Show, Mensing Galerie, Germany
Art Miami, MW Gallery, New York, NY



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F I N E A R T S

- 2006 ***Glassed***, Museum Works Gallery, New York, NY
The Group 2006, Lois Lambert Gallery at Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA
Portraits, L Street Gallery, San Diego, CA
- 2005 ***Petite Works***, Gallery 825 at Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA
The F-Stop's Here, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
Mixed Bag, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
Playground, 247 Central Park West, New York, NY
Mingle, Crescent Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA
Recent Work, Alpha, West Hollywood, CA
- 2004 ***Soul Satisfaction***, House of Blues, West Hollywood, CA
Remixed, Hum, Santa Monica, CA
Strictly Visual, Lois Lambert Gallery at Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA
New Members, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
Petite Works, Gallery 825 at Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA
- 2003 ***Up Our Sleeve***, Los Angeles, CA, San Francisco, CA, Tokyo, Japan, Kyoto, Japan
Things d'Art, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA
Awake, Gallery 138, Los Angeles, CA
- 2002 ***Pulsation***, Zanzibar, Santa Monica, CA
Arts 4375, Ritz Carlton, Marina del Rey, CA
Unscene, Miller Studio, Venice, CA

COLLECTIONS

Arizona State University
Black Coffee Gallery
Burbank & Main LLC
Clare Foundation
Darko Entertainment
Dicker & Associates
Eddie V's Prime Seafood
Hirsh Bedner Associates
Hum Music & Sound Design
Juris Law Group
Kaiser Permanente
National Geographic
Optimal Fusion Hollywood
Paradigm Agency
Platinum Equity
R. Jack Balthazar
Rock Asset Management
Sutton Pakfar & Courtney, LLP
Then What Films



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Visa
W Hotel Hollywood
Wolfgang Puck Worldwide
Zuber & Taillieu LLP

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Carla Sakamoto (Curator) ***For Which It Stands: Americana in Contemporary Art,***
Faramah Media, 2012, p. 330-333