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ABOUT



Sean Mahan is a social realist figurative painter who works with graphite and acrylic washes on wood to depict a sense of wonder about the innate warmth of the human character and its conflict with structures of power and control.

Sean has enjoyed creating cover artwork for the bands: Lowpines, Twelve Hour Turn, Floor, Daitro, Dauntless Elite, Jets vs. Sharks, Planes Mistaken For Stars, Beat Buttons, North Lincoln, Fires, Del Cielo, The Gifhorse, Mouthbreather, Senders, Little League, Back Pocket, Small Talk, The Bomb, Telepathic Lines, Sunshine State, and more.

Recently, Sean's work has shown at Urban Nation, Berlin; Stolen Space Gallery; London; Thinkspace Gallery, Los Angeles; Cotton Candy Machine, New York; Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco; Parlor Gallery, New Jersey; Subtext Gallery, San Diego; Stranger Factory Gallery, New Mexico; Gallery 5, Richmond; Display Gallery, Gainesville; Art Basel, Miami; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville; and the Brooklyn Collective, NYC.

FROM THE PRESS

"Beautifully executed with subtle washes of acrylic, and fine lines of graphite, the works have a gossamer like quality that seems to float within the organic panel. The palette is muted and feels distinctly nostalgic, like a vintage postcard from an idealistic and bygone era. The subject is at times placed in contexts that suggest an external conflict, or at least the presence of an irresolution, but something unassailable and resilient withstands the suggestion of looming compromise. Often dreamy, withdrawn, and even melancholic, a quietude pervades the subjects of the work."

— Marieke Treilhard, Juxtapoz Magazine

"Sean Mahan is fascinated by the idea of innocence and how that idea shifts and is shaped from generation to generation. His thin washes of acrylic and graphite on wood are subtle and delicate, underscoring the innocence of his young subjects." — Paper Darts Magazine

"Sean Mahan has a precise style that is both immediate and containing depth needing further exploration well beyond a glance." — Give Me Back Magazine

"Sean Mahan's paintings first began surfacing on independent/punk/hardcore record covers in the early 90's. Initially he worked with the band 12 Hour Turn who's beautifully insurgent style set Sean's paintings into the context. This relationship opened the door to working with other musicians within the genre like Daitro, The Dauntless Elite, Del Cielo, among others. Along with painting for records, Sean is a prolific fine artist. His current series of paintings of children on wood are of a sweeter conception, yet don't shy away from the complexity of character which reflects in the quiet and fragile expression of his subjects." — Art Odyssey

AVAILABILITY

Contact Sean Mahan to buy a painting, schedule an interview, or commission a project. seanart@hotmail.com
Available paintings and prints listed at: seanmahanart.com

SAMPLE IMAGES



"girl and record" 16" x 16" graphite and acrylic on wood



"girl and bicycle" 24" x 24" cover feature: *Public Art Magazine Korea*



"sometimes to flower is to die" 16" x 20" graphite and acrylic on wood



"sewing 8" 18" x 24" graphite and acrylic on wood

SAMPLE IMAGES



"invisible threads 2" 24" x 24" for the cover of *The Gifhorse "Collections"*



"girl and origami" 24" x 24" graphite and acrylic on wood



"to flower or to consume" 16" x 20" for UN Berlin Museum



"girl and juicer" 16" x 20" graphite and acrylic on wood

SHOWS

2016

- 10/16 **Thinkspace Gallery**, Los Angeles, CA - solo show
- 10/16 **Zorka Rose Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show: *FEST 15*
- 6/16 **Indie Fjord**, Bjorke, Norway - solo show
- 3/16 **Scope New York**, New York, New York - group show: curated by Thinkspace Gallery
- 2/16 **Honolulu Museum of Art**, Honolulu, HI - group show: *POW! WOW! Hawaii*, curated by Thinkspace Gallery
- 1/16 **LA Art Show**, Los Angeles, CA - group show: *Little Topia* curated by Thinkspace Gallery

2015

- 12/15 **Scope Art Basel**, Miami, FL - group show: curated by Thinkspace Gallery
- 12/15 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - group show: *Brooklyn Biennial 2*
- 10/15 **Zorka Rose Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show: *FEST 14*
- 9/15 **Stolen Space Gallery**, London, England - group show: *LAX/LHR* curated by Thinkspace Gallery
- 8/15 **Urban Nation Museum**, Berlin, Germany - group show: *Rising* curated by Jonathan LeVine, Andrew Hosner
- 6/15 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - group show: *Tiny Trifecta*
- 6/15 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - group show: *They Live: Exhibited Works*
- 6/15 **Inner State Gallery**, Detroit, MI - group show: *LAX/DTW* curated by Thinkspace Gallery
- 2/15 **Honolulu Museum**, HI - group show: *POW! WOW! Hawaii* curated by Thinkspace Gallery

2014

- 12/14 **Scope, Art Basel**, Miami, FL - group show: *Thinkspace*
- 10/14 **Zorka Rose Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show: *Fest 13*
- 10/14 **Hashimoto Contemporary**, San Francisco, CA - group show: *LAX/SFO by Thinkspace*
- 9/14 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - solo show: *Causal Threads*
- 8/14 **Crisp Ellert Art Museum**, St. Augustine, FL - solo show: *Telepathic Lines*
- 6/14 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - 4'x8' mural and group show: *Tiny Trifecta*
- 4/25 **Display Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - two 18'x 40' murals, and solo show: *Imagined Agency*

2013

- 12/13 **Cotton Candy Machine**, Brooklyn, NY - group show: *Brooklyn Biennial*
- 11/13 **Parlor Gallery**, Asbury Park, NJ - group show: *Juried 2013 -curated by Jonathan Levine*
- 09/13 **Benny Gold**, San Francisco, CA - group show: *Gliders*
- 08/13 **Thinkspace Gallery**, Los Angeles, CA - solo show: *Invisible Threads*
- 06/13 **Art in Public Places Mural**, Jacksonville, FL- *Girl and Origami*, 22'x52' mural

2012

- 10/12 **Stranger Factory Gallery**, Albuquerque, NM - group show: *Bewitching 2*
- 10/12 **Display Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show: *Fest 11*
- 08/12 **Thinkspace Gallery**, Los Angeles, CA - group show: *project room*
- 06/12 **Owlery Gallery**, Bloomington, IN - group show: *PIX Fest* curated by Sean Mahan, Erin Tobey
- 05/12 **Thinkspace Gallery**, Los Angeles, CA - group show: *Endangered Species*
- 03/12 **Thinkspace Gallery**, Los Angeles, CA - group show: *Picks of the Harvest*
- 01/12 **Gallery 5**, Richmond, VA - solo show: *Invisible Weight*

2011

- 11/11 **Subtext Gallery**, San Diego, CA - group show: *Homeroom*
- 10/11 **Display Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show: *Fest 10*
- 10/11 **Cummer Museum**, Jacksonville, FL - group show: *50 under 50*

2010

- 12/10 **Art Basel**, Miami, FL - group show: *Multiversal*
- 10/10 **Plus Plus Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show *Fest 9*
- 09/10 **Gallery 5**, Richmond, VA - group show: *Rorschach Records Show*
- 09/10 **Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville**, Jacksonville, FL - group show: *Making Marks*
- 09/10 **Brooklyn Collective**, New York, NY - solo show: *Reflected*

2009

- 10/09 **Plus Plus Gallery**, Gainesville, FL - group show *Fest 8*
- 11/09 **Shoparooni**, Cleveland, OH - group show: *Natural Resources*
- 07/09 **Brooklyn Collective**, New York, NY - solo show: *Sewing Girls*

2008

- 07/08 **Brooklyn Collective**, New York, NY - solo show: *Untitled*