



For Immediate Release

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For artist interviews, please e-mail contact@thinkspacegallery.com

* Add'l press images available upon request

Thinkspace presents:

'Amended'

Featuring new works from **Kevin Peterson**

Plus in our project room:

'More Human Than Human'

Featuring new works from **Jacub Gagnon**

Reception with the artists:

Sat., November 3rd 6-9PM

Exhibitions on view: November 3rd – November 24th

Los Angeles, CA - Thinkspace is pleased to present *Amended*, the gallery's first solo exhibition of new work by Houston based painter Kevin Peterson. Concurrently on display in the project room is *More Human Than Human*, featuring new work by Canadian artist Jacub Gagnon.

Kevin Peterson's work is fundamentally motivated by the tension of unexpected juxtapositions; a device the artist uses to evoke psychic states, and affective associations. As an artist with a psychologically driven interest in his subject matter, his understated portrayals of isolation speak of subtle emotional estrangement and social alienation.

Peterson extracts, with sensitive acuity, a shared state of human fissure and disconnect, a theme saliently represented within the imperfect context of the urban landscape. The dirty grittiness of urbanity is often the bereft backdrop for lonely portraits of innocent children, or for symbols of innocence degraded by the unrelenting havoc of their surroundings. The juxtaposition of these polarities forces us to reconsider subjectivity in context, and quite literally situates the subject as an enigmatic and contentious force within its environment; as something independent of, and yet intrinsically affected by, the conditions of its world. His empathetic depictions of these scenes betray the insights of someone who has perhaps suffered in kind. Despite the haunting sense of absence and loss that pervades these paintings, the possibility of innocence and beauty remains intact against desolate landscapes. In the face of decay and squalor something nonetheless exceeds its confines, and a sort of beautiful destitution prevails.

The artist's studies in psychology, and his subsequent struggle with addiction, have informed a very human depiction of dysfunction, loss, and estrangement. His paintings depict a contemporary reality defined by contradiction, irresolution, and imperfection, and yet they also remind us of the possibility of change. The realistically rendered figurative elements of the work are set against great expanses of surrounding negative space, effectively isolating the subject within the charged absence of the city. The artist plays with contradiction and expectation, and allows the concept of "self" to emerge as a complex and unresolved entity in a constant state of becoming.

Take a sneak peek at the works coming to life for 'Amended' here:

<http://thinkspacegallery.com/shows/2012-11/>

Artist website: <http://kevinpetersonstudios.com>

ON VIEW IN OUR PROJECT ROOM:

Jacuba Gagnon 'More Human Than Human'

Jacub Gagnon is one of Toronto's emerging contemporary talents. The artist's paintings are composed of dramatic expanses of pitch black negative space, populated by colorful hyper-realist renderings of wildlife in whimsical situations. The little creatures of Gagnon's imaginings surrealistically activate human objects with both absurd and adorable end

results. Meticulously detailed and rendered, with the application of delicate layers, Gagnon's colors and textures are jewel like. The artist's scenarios are those of fantasy, summoned by an unfettered imagination and uninhibited by the restrictive logic of reality. Gagnon probes the fine line between the innocuous and the sinister, effortlessly subverting the order of the natural world.

The work combines the preciousness of miniaturization with the whimsy of fantastical narrative. At times uncanny and dark in their unlikely combinations, the pieces activate unprecedented relationships between the animal and human worlds, and transfigure wild animals into anthropomorphic guises; like eerie little impostors of the human. We are seduced by a detailed and luminous surface, and fascinated by its circus of creatures. The paintings are almost Baroque in their drama and intensity, but undeniably contemporary in their aesthetic. Humor abounds in this land of carnival and inversion: scale is subverted, and natural relationships are defied. It is a world of disproportion and excess, as anything is possible, and nothing too perverse, in the descent down the rabbit hole. Gagnon deploys a trove of visual pleasures for the viewer, and creates a threshold into a world of boundless fantasy.

Take a sneak peek at Jacob Gagnon's new works coming to life inside his studio here:

<http://thinkspacegallery.com/shows/2012-11-project/>

Artist Website: www.jacubgagnon.com

About Thinkspace Gallery:

Founded in Los Angeles in 2005, and located in the Culver City art district since 2009, Thinkspace was established with a commitment to the promotion and dissemination of young and emerging art. The gallery is a catalytic conduit for the emerging art scene, and is dedicated to the exposure of its tenets and its artists. This movement, straddled between street art, graphic art, design, and popular culture, is subject to steadily increasing global expansion, and is in need of institutional advocates. Thinkspace is positioned to create opportunities and a visible platform for its recognition and proliferation. The movement is young, but significant, and Thinkspace's aim is to establish both a curatorial forum and a collector base for its output. As an institution, Thinkspace is committed to vision, risk, and the exceptional talents that wield it. From the streets, to the gallery, from the "margins", to the white cube, Thinkspace is re-envisioning what it means to be "institutional". As a haven for talent, and a venue founded in passion, conviction, and community, the gallery's mandate is rooted in projections for its future longevity. We intend to be a vehicle for the talents we vet for year's to come, and are passionate advocates for their vision and their dreams.

Thinkspace Gallery is located at 6009 Washington Blvd, in the heart of the Culver City Arts District, Culver City, CA 90232. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, please call 310.558.3375, visit <http://thinkspacegallery.com> or send an email to [contact\(at\)thinkspacegallery\(dot\)com](mailto:contact(at)thinkspacegallery(dot)com).

thinkspace

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T: 310.558.3375

Web: <http://thinkspacegallery.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/thinkspacegallery

Blog: www.sourharvest.com

Open Wednesday - Friday 1:00PM – 6:00PM and Saturday 1:00PM – 8:00PM

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** Main show text courtesy of Marieke Treilhard*