

Jeff Gillette

Artist Statement

I travel to the most wretched places on earth for inspiration for my art: to third-world slums. From as recently as the spring of 2012 when I had a guide take me through the tiny, dark alleyways of Dharavi in Mumbai, India, all the way back to the late 1980's when as a Peace Corps volunteer in Nepal, I visited all of India's large cities and their megaslums. Besides India, I've ventured into favelas, barrios, bastis and shantytowns, experiencing urban blight in North Africa, Southeast Asia, Central and South America, Mexico and Bangladesh. Aside from the seething humanity, the suffering, the unfairness and cruelty of the slum is a strange beauty. The cacophony of filthy debris rising from oceans of garbage comprises an architecture of deprivation and necessity. What emerges is a living environment of aesthetic wonder, spectacular visuals of space, color, form, and texture. These images, I re-create in the all too-realism of my "slumscape" artwork, in drawings, paintings, sculptures and installations.

Art History Shacks is my latest series of paintings that explore a post-apocalyptic, worst case future scenario where some of contemporary western culture's most important artists' works have degenerated into becoming part of the detritus and trash of a landfill and architectural building materials of a typical third-world shanty. Under paintings of the images were made from spray-painted stencils from an image I created in Photoshop. I researched and added pertinent elements to showcase each artist's work and style with meticulous painting and collaging of details.

Accompanying the paintings is a series of unique **iLandfill** prints showcasing popular culture's most iconic cartoon characters in an endless e-waste landfill. The cartoon characters were appropriated from the internet. The e-waste debris was created with a tempera paint underpainting and added watercolor glazes of color and value layered on the underpainting. I made drawings and culled images from the internet of computers, phones, broken glass and various debris formations. The skies are my foray into the recent phenomena of AI art, utilizing verbal prompts to get computer-generated, highly stylized cloud formations. These I layered with color, value and opacity, working to integrate them into the distant horizon, manipulating the images to create a dramatic feel above the technological wasteland.

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Resume

Solo Exhibitions

2024

Beinart Gallery, Brunswick, Australia

2023

Gallery Kawamatsu, Tokyo, Japan

Art History Shacks, Bert Green Gallery, Chicago, IL

Banksyland (Guerilla participant) Costa Mesa, CA

2022

Banksy- Outlaw or Genius Exhibition, (Guerilla participant), Culver City, CA

Apocalypse Art!, Gallery Kawamatsu, with artist Roamcouch, Tokyo, Japan

2021

ArtsGalore Gallery, with artist Roamcouch, Dubai, UAE

2020

LA Art Show Solo Project, Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2018

Worst Case Scenario, Copro Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

2017

Total Dismay, Gregorio Escalante Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2016

Post – Dismal, Lawrence Alkin Gallery, London, UK

Dismayland Nord, NUART Gallery and Street Art Festival, Stavinger, Norway

2013

Slum Landfills, Copro Gallery Santa Monica, CA

Gallery 1988 Venice, CA

2012

Slumscapes, Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago IL

2011

Cartoon Paintings, James Gray Gallery, Santa Monica CA

2010

Slums: Paintings and Drawings, Jeff Gillette, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles CA

Dismayland, Copro Gallery, Santa Monica CA

2008

Jeff Gillette, Fallout Gallery, Las Vegas NV

Desert Interventions, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles CA

Blight, CoproNason Gallery, Santa Monica CA

2006

Funny Stuff at The Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana CA Oct 2006

New Slumscapes, Bert Green Fine Art, Los Angeles CA

2004

Alas Vegas / Art Hysterical, DiRT Gallery, West Hollywood CA

2003

Slums, Copro/Nason Gallery, Culver City CA

2000

Slumscapes / Blasphemy Blowout, DiRT Gallery, West Hollywood CA

1999

An Organic Necessity (Black Light Atom Bomb Paintings), The Caged Chameleon Gallery, Santa Ana CA

1997

I've Accepted Jesus Christ as My Personal Savior - But I Still Feel Crappy, Broadway Gallery, Santa Ana CA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2019

Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2018

Heron Arts, San Francisco, CA

Copro Gallery Los Angeles

2017

"Shape of Things to Come", Jonathon Levine Gallery New York, NY

Copro Gallery Los Angeles

2016

LA Art Show, Gregorio Escalante Gallery Los Angeles, CA

LA Art Show Works on Paper Fair, Bert Green Fine Art Chicago, IL

"Collages" Bert Green Fine Art Chicago, IL

Copro Gallery Los Angeles

2015

Banksy's Dismaland at Weston Super Mare, UK

Scope Art Fair with Copro Gallery Miami, FL

Portal to the Future at Gregorio Escalante Gallery Los Angeles, CA

2014

"12 x 12 x 12", White Walls Gallery San Francisco, CA

"Coaster Show", LaLuz de Jesus Gallery Hollywood, CA

"10 x 10", White Walls Gallery San Francisco, CA

"Artists 2013", Art Cube Laguna Beach, CA

2012

Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago IL

No Joke, Coagula Curatorial, Chinatown, Los Angeles

Juxtapoz 15th Anniversary, CoproNason Gallery, Santa Monica CA

Colors 2012, Artland, Mumbai, India

2010

Atrophic Reality at Show and Tell Gallery, Toronto Canada

Art Shack at The Laguna Art Museum

100 Artists See Satan (again) at Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana CA

2008

The Good Samaritan Show CoproNason Gallery, Santa Monica CA

Couples Santa Ana College Gallery, Santa Ana CA

Alumni Painters California State University, Fullerton

High Fructose Magazine Show CoproNason Gallery, Santa Monica CA

Post Petroleum Show Reno University Gallery, NV

The Juxtapoz School Laguna Art Museum

American Lifescapes DBA 256 Gallery, Pomona CA

2007

Copro/Nason Gallery 15th Anniversary

2006

Barely Legal Banksy (Guerilla participant), Los Angeles CA

Suburban Escape, The San Jose Museum of Art

Canvas?, Jack Flynn Gallery, Costa Mesa CA

2004

The OsCene at The Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach CA

100 Artists See Satan at Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana CA

Uncharted Terrain at SOKA University of America, Aliso Viejo CA
2002
Juxtapoz Show at Track 16 Gallery, Santa Monica CA 2002
2001
Patricia Correria Gallery, Santa Monica CA
1999
Patricia Correria Gallery, Santa Monica CA
Pleiades Gallery, (curated by Donald Kuspit) New York NY

Publications

Featured Artist Article in Juxtapoz Magazine Spring 2017
'An American Artist Shows the Darker Side to the Disneyland Fantasy' Hindustan Times, India Dec.
2016
Introduction to Dismaland and Post Street Art 2015
Vice 'The Creator's Project' June 2016
CNN and Miscellaneous Sites Online centering on "Dismaland" since Aug 2015
Local Arts Online Spring 2014
New American Painters 2013
High Fructose Collected Edition 2012
"Slumscapes," Favelissues, May 9, 2012
"BLISS Magazine Apr 2011
The Juxtapoz School" for the Laguna Art Museum, 2008
High Fructose Magazine October 2008
New American Painters 2008
"Jeff Gillette & Valerie Jacobs at Bert Green Fine Art" by Ray Zone, Artscene, Los Angeles, May 2008
"Two Three-Fers" by Peter Frank, The LA Weekly 2008
Copro/Nason Fine Art: A Catalogue Raisonne' ed: Cushner, Fox and Katz, 2007
"Suburban Escape: The Art of California Sprawl by Ann Wolfe: Center for American Places" and the
San Jose Museum of Art, 2006
"Celebrating O.C.'s Own Scene" by Richard Chang, The Orange County Register, Nov. 7, 2004
"100 Artists See Satan" Grand Central Art Center / Last Gasp Press, Santa Ana CA 2004
"Slums: Jeff Gillette" by David Scarborough in NY Arts Sep/Oct 2003, www.nyartsmagazine.com
"Squalor Holiday" by Jeff Gillette in Juxtapoz Sep/Oct 2002
"Bleak Chic" in Black and White (Australia) summer 2002
"Slumlord" by Annie Tucker in Juxtapoz Jun/Jul 2000
"Most Art Sucks: Five Years of Coagula" 1998 Smart Art Press

Selected Collections

Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Banksy
Bunta Inoue / Salon 33 Tateyama Japan
Jo Brooks
Joanna Cassidy
Matt deBord
Jan Dudley
Greg Escalante
Llyn Foulkes
Anne Hawkins
Science Holiday
Roberta Maccani
Greg Miller
Donna Nguyen

Mark Rattin
Orly Ravid
Rick Robinson
Pamela Rouse
SHAG
Wayne Thiebaud
Howard Tullman
Henry Winkler

Internet

'Jeff Gillette' channel on YouTube.com
'jeffgilletteart' page on Facebook
Jeffrey Gillette on Facebook
jeffreygillette666 on Instagram
I have no website, just 'Google-Image Search' "Jeff Gillette Artist"