

Matthew Schlagbaum Artist's Statement

My work explores the social, emotional and political states linked with the inability to experience sensations available to others. I create imagery and objects that reflect a longing for absent experiences. This primarily manifests in my practice through a focus on our cultural obsession with emotional extremes, most notably those ascribed to happiness. I investigate happiness as a form of social control that prescribes correct lifestyles, pursuits, and modes of being.

As a method to explore and lend representation to these ideas, my work manipulates color, light, clarity, familiarity, distance, and materiality. Colors are subverted, materials are dressed up in drag versions of themselves, stock images stand in as icons, and artificiality is simultaneously embraced and rejected.

Matthew Schlagbaum

Resume

Education

2011

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
MFA Fiber and Material Studies

2009

University of South Florida
BFA Sculpture and Extended Media, BA Psychology

Solo Exhibitions

2017

Smiling through gritted teeth, Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2015

Wearing Myself Out Trying To Get There, Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL
On My Honor, Outlet Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY (collaborative performance with Jennifer Mills and Ryan Castillo)

2013

It's What's On The Outside That Counts, Contemporary Art Center, Las Vegas, NV
Gild, Azimuth, Chicago, IL
Amulets and Heirlooms, Reform Objects (part of 2nd Floor Rear 2013), Chicago, IL

2012

Don't Stop Now, I'm Almost There, Vitrine, Chicago, IL
Not Cool or Stoic, Slow, Chicago, IL

2010

Surface Tension, Gallery X, Chicago, IL
Group Solo: The Sequel, Swimming Pool Project Space, Chicago, IL

2009

Beards, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

2008

Stranger Things, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL
Space of Abjection, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

Group Exhibitions

2017

The Subject is Chicago: People, Places and Possibilities, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL

2016

Pitchpoling, Governor's State University, University Park, IL
Evanston + Vicinity Biennial, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
Swimming With Narcissus, Bailey Contemporary Arts, Pompano Beach, FL
POUR IT UP: A BITCH3Z, Benefit for 2nd Floor Rear, Chicago, IL

2015

Making Chances, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL

8th Annual Governor's Island Art Fair, NY, NY

Chrysalis, Rainbo Club, Chicago, IL

Starving Artist, Chicago Artist Coalition Fundraising Benefit, Chicago, IL

Neon Dreams, Threewalls Fundraising Benefit, Chicago, IL

2014

Shadowlands, Temporary Project Space, Chicago, IL

The Triumph of Detritus, 1310 Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Starwalker, Threewalls Benefit Gala at Mana Contemporary, Chicago, IL

In The Land of Thieves and Ghosts, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL

The Tyranny of Good Taste, La Esquina Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2013

The Tyranny of Good Taste, Glass Curtain Gallery, Chicago, IL

Histories/Photographies, Depaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL

ARGUS: Organic Visual Archive, Johalla Projects, Chicago, IL

Natural Fallacy, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, IL

Starving Artist Fundraising Benefit, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, IL

Lossless, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, IL

Otherwise, Beige, Memphis, TN

Fleeting, Indi Go Gallery, Champagne, IL

2012

Children of the House of Love, Beige, Memphis, TN

Positive Reinforcement, Peanut Gallery, Chicago, IL

2011

Fall Art and Design Series, Dock 6, Chicago, IL

Experience is Never Unattached, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL

Undomesticated, Temporary Project Space, Chicago, IL

Both/And, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL

Myself, Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, Reno, NV

2010

All The Best, Sullivan Gallery, Chicago, IL

Chicago Artist Month Kickoff, Temporary Project Space, Chicago, IL

X-Treme Studio, Averill and Bernard Leviton A+D Gallery, Chicago, IL

So You Think You Can Paint? (Chicago Edition), Spoke, Chicago, IL

So You Think You Can Paint? (Tampa Edition Round 2), Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

2009

20th University Student Exhibition, Atlantic Center For the Arts, New Smyrna Beach, FL

Pompous Circumstance, West Tampa Center for the Arts, Tampa, FL

USF 33rd Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

We're Not Telling, William and Nancy Oliver Gallery, Tampa, FL

Image 2, The Family Life Center, Temple Terrace, FL

Uncovered, The Great Frame Up, Wesley Chapel, FL

Art House, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

2008

Brevard Art Museum 2008 Juried Exhibition, Brevard Art Museum, Melbourne, FL

32nd Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, FL

Viridian Artists 19th Annual National Juried Exhibition, New York, NY

Image, The Family Life Center, Temple Terrace, FL
Art House, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

2007

31st Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, FL

Derive, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

Heads, William and Nancy Oliver Gallery, Tampa, FL

OPENings: Interactive Art Show, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

Rock 4 Choice, Transitions Art Gallery, Tampa, FL

Art Breaking the Silence, Centre Gallery, Tampa, FL

Art House, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Residencies

2015

Arquetopia, Puebla, Mexico (upcoming)

2013

Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT

Hatch Projects, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, IL

2011

ACRE Residency, Steuben, WI

Awards

2015

Individual Artist Grant, Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, Chicago

2013

Artist Grant, Vermont Studio Center

Chicago Artist Coalition Makers Grant Finalist

2011

Nominee, Claire Rosen and Samuel Edes Foundation Prize for Emerging Artists, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

2010

Runner-Up, So You Think You Can Paint? (Chicago Edition)

2009

3rd Place, Image Exhibition

2009

School of Art and Art History Talent Grant, University of South Florida

2008

Ken Revay Merit Award, Brevard Art Museum

2004-09 Academic Scholar, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

2004-08 Presidential Scholarship, University of South Florida

2004-08 Honors College Scholarship, University of South Florida

Lectures

2015

Bert Green Fine Art, Chicago, IL

2014

Guest Lecturer and project facilitator, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Department of Contemporary Practices Chicago, IL

Wolcott High School, Guest Lecturer and project facilitator, Chicago, IL

2013

Las Vegas Contemporary Art Center, "It's What's On The Outside That Counts," Las Vegas, NV

Wolcott High School, Guest Lecturer and project facilitator, Chicago, IL
2011

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, FMS Noon Hour Lecture Series,
"Reconsidering Things," Chicago, IL
2010

Pritzker College Prep, Guided lecture of Modern Wing at Art Institute of Chicago,
Chicago, IL

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, FMS Noon Hour Lecture Series, Chicago, IL
2009

Pritzker College Prep, panel discussion of college preparedness, Chicago, IL

Press

2015

Other People's Pixels Blog, "Other People's Pixels Interviews Matthew Schlagbaum

2014

Bad At Sports, Dana Bassett, "What's the T: Edition #31, May 27th

Bad At Sports, Britton Bertran, "Top 5 Lists For 2013," Jan. 6

2013

The Seen, MK Meador, "Profile of the Artist: Matthew Schlagbaum," Nov. 6

Bad At Sports, "Top 5 Weekend Picks 10/18 - 10/20," Oct. 17

Las Vegas City Life, Jenessa Kenway, "Surface Deep Riches With Matthew
Schlagbaum"

VegasKool, "Matthew Schlagbaum Here This Fall"

Miss A, Nika Levando, "Recap: Chicago Artist Coalition Starving Artist Event," July 2

Time Out Chicago, Jessica Johnson, "5 Things To Do Today: Thu, May 2," May 2

Chicago Reader, Sarah Nardi, "And The Machines Will Be Our Masters: Ghost
Machines and Lossless" April 30

Hyperallergic, Alicia Eler, "David In Decay, Or Making The Digital Landscape An
Analog Dreamscape," April 25

Bad At Sports, "Chicago Art In Pictures: March - April 2013," April 15

Time Out Chicago, "Critics Pick: Lossless at Chicago Artist Coalition," April 2013

ChiCritics, Steve Ragalie, "Weekly Picks," April 12

ForgetGood, featured artist interview, March, <http://forget-good.com/March-Issue-08>
2012

Make-Space, "Artist Playlist: Matthew Schlagbaum," August 17

Huffington Post, Elysabeth Alfano, "...Got Art?," May 4

Self-Guided Tour, Greg Ruffing, "Art Openings 5/4-5/6: Version Fest 12

Bad At Sports, "Top 5 Weekend Pick (1/27 - 1/29)," Jan. 26

2011

F News Magazine, Nicholas Ostoff, "Artists 1, Curators 0"

Make-Space, "Other Investigations: Matthew Schlagbaum" Oct 2

Both/And, exhibition catalogue, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL

Myself Exhibition Catalogue, Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, Reno, NV

2010

All the Best Exhibition Catalogue, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL

Bad At Sports, "Top 5 Weekend Pick (9/17 - 9/19)," Sept. 16

Anyone Can Learn to Paint Blog, Steve Frost, "Introductions: Matthew Schlagbaum"

2009

Pompous Circumstance Exhibition Catalogue, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Anyone Can Learn to Paint Blog, Steve Frost, "Introductions: Matthew Schlagbaum"