

*Street/Studio 2.0*

David Ellis Shepard Fairey José Parlá Swoon Romon Yang (Rostarr)  
James Marshall (Dalek) Chris Mendoza Gaia  
November 6 - December 18, 2010

**Friday, November 5: Preview and events**

6:30pm ***Urban Code: New Categories of Art***  
Phillips Collection, Center for the Study of Modern Art  
Klaus Ottman and Martin Irvine, Moderators  
José Parlá, David Ellis, Romon Yang, Chris Mendoza, Gaia

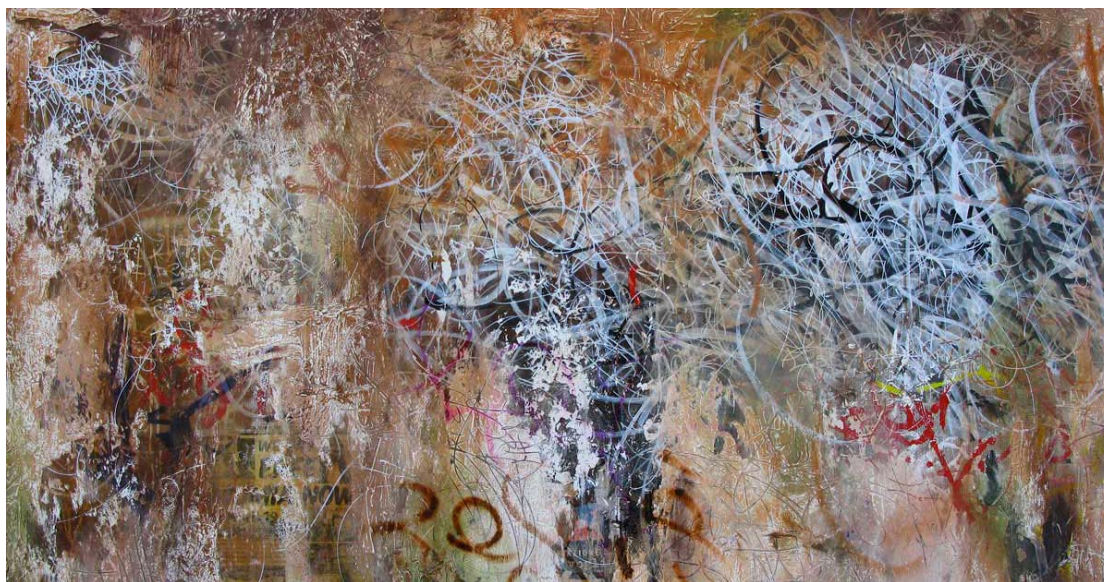
9:30pm VIP Afterparty and preview of exhibition and premier of David Ellis video  
Montserrat House, 9th and U Streets

**Saturday, November 6: Opening and events**

6pm Opening Reception with the Artists

9:30-11pm VIP Reception and Afterparty at Eighteenth Street Lounge: Rage Johnson, DJ

11pm Celebration and Afterparty at Eighteenth Street Lounge



José Parlá, *Layered Days*, 2009. 6 x 4 ft. Mixed, media, collage, plaster, acrylic on wood. Detail.

*Street/Studio 2.0* showcases the multiple practices of artists who work across a continuum of sites and mediums that include street mural works, studio works in all mediums, gallery and museum exhibitions, digital production tools, and documentation and distribution on the Web. The artists' works--in any medium and wherever they appear--form a dialog with the city and engage us with responses to the energy, conflicts, and joys of urban life.

Our exhibition last year, *Street/Studio*, showed how artists working in this new continuity of practice understand their works as always being *site-specific*, made for the spaces that frame them, regardless of the cultural categories defining where art should appear.

Artists associated with this movement have not only broken down walls but have also removed the dichotomy between the real and digital worlds. As Sara and Marc Schiller of the Wooster Collective have noted, street art is the first global art movement to be fueled by the Web. With proliferating photo-sharing sites, artists' blogs, and aggregators like the Wooster Collective, the Web has become a documentary virtual wall, a global city, a real-time art archive, a community studio, and an instant messaging system for artists. Software tools for composing images to be output in other media have become as integral to studio practice as the musician's mixing board and multiple digital sound sources.

*Street/Studio 2.0* further advances a broader view of art today as artists now develop their work in a continuity of practice spanning works in all forms and locations, digital media and software, and the Web. *Street/Studio 2.0* presents leading artists who have been innovators in new categories of art, creatively recoding the recombinant DNA of culture into new forms that respond to urban life.

### Collaboration with Eric Hilton and New Installation Space

With this exhibition, Irvine Contemporary is also inaugurating a collaboration with Washington creative pioneer Eric Hilton by expanding the gallery program with art installations in other environments that include music, performance, experimental works, and film. Hilton's new music studio, Montserrat House, on 9th and U Streets, will host art works, murals, and video for Street Studio 2.0.

### About the Artists



David Ellis, *Animal*, 2010. HD movie, 9 min., 39 sec., color, sound, Blu-ray disc. Still.

**David Ellis** is one of the founders of the Barnstormers collective, and he works in many forms that extend his background in music and painting. His paintings, murals, and motion-painting videos capture the rhythms and visual energy of jazz, hip-hop, and graffiti, and his kinetic sculptures convert found materials and repurposed acoustic instruments into programmable motion and sound installations. He was recently selected by curator Pedro Alonzo for *Viva la Revolución: A Dialogue with the Urban Landscape* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. *Street/Studio 2.0* will feature Ellis's new HD film, *Animal*, a 10 minute documentation of a six-week motion-painting performance. His works have been featured at the Huntington Museum of Art; Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia; The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA; The P.S.1/MoMA "Greater New York" Exhibition; and the Visual Arts Center, UT Austin. David Ellis lives works in Brooklyn, NY, and has a BA from Cooper Union in New York.

**Shepard Fairey** is known internationally as a leader in street art and many forms of post-Pop composition, graphic design, and printmaking. He gained international recognition in the early 1990s with his Obey Giant campaign, seen on streets around the world on countless stickers and posters. In 2008, he became widely known for creating the iconic Obama “Hope” image that swept the globe. His hand-stenciled and collaged version of the Obama Hope portrait is now in the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, acquired from the exhibition at Irvine Contemporary in October, 2008. Over the past 20 years, Fairey has created works that cross all boundaries and categories—on the street, studio-produced panels and canvases, editioned prints, commercial collaborations, and gallery and museum installations. His Retrospective, *Supply and Demand: The Art of Shepard Fairey*, traveled to US museums in 2009-2010, originating at the Boston Institute of Contemporary Art.

**José Parlá** is internationally known for his multi-layered paintings that combine the direct hand-work of graffiti and city walls with calligraphy, abstract expressionist gestures, and collaged fragments of city life. His works are urban memory documents, palimpsests of the layers of time, history, and experience in dense urban environments. He also works in collaborations with the Barnstormers collective, and his paintings have appeared in major exhibitions in London, New York, Tokyo, and Paris, and recently in the *Stages for the Livestrong Foundation* at Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin in Paris and Deitch Projects, New York. José Parlá studied at the Savannah College of Art and Design and The New World School of the Arts in Miami, and lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.



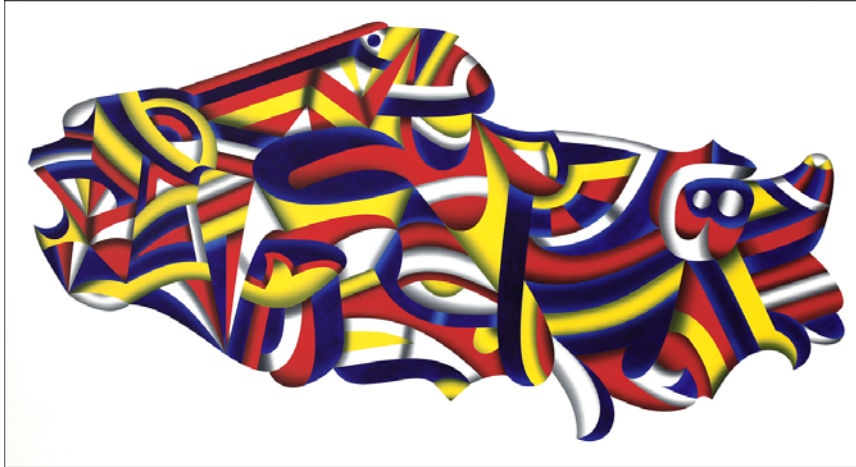
Swoon, *Three Girls*, 2010. Wood block print, acrylic, paper cut out. Detail.



Shepard Fairey, LP Album Cover, 2010. HPM edition of 8. 12 x 12 in.

**Swoon** is known world-wide for her visually striking woodcut prints placed as interventions on city streets as well as for her gallery and museum installations that combine printmaking, 3-D cut-outs, paintings, and sculptures from found and repurposed materials. She has worked with several artist collectives, including the Barnstormers and Justseeds, and recently gained international recognition for her collaborative “performance sculpture” raft project, “The Swimming Cities of Serinissima,” which sailed down the Adriatic and crashed the Venice Biennale (2009) with nightly performances. Major exhibitions include installations at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, Deitch Projects, NY, P.S. 1 and the Museum of Modern Art, NY, the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Swoon is also committed to using art and interventions for ethical and environmental change in local communities. She is a graduate of the Pratt Institute and lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

**Romon Yang (Rostarr)** is a multi-disciplinary artist, painter, calligrapher and filmmaker living and working in Brooklyn, NY. He is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York, and early in his career he produced work in both the art and graphic design spheres, blurring the lines between the two. He has done collaborative projects with the Barnstormers collective and with musicians and film makers. Rostarr has had recent exhibitions in Tokyo, New York, Paris, Miami and Genoa, Italy, and participated in the major group exhibition, *The Beautiful Losers*, which traveled to several museums in the US (2004-2009). His recent film, *Kill the Ego*, a motion painting collaboration with Soundwalk, was featured at the Centre Pompidou *Hors Piste* cinema series (2010) and *Circuito Off Venice International Short Film Festival* in Venice.



Romon Yang (Rostarr), *Praefectus T.A.R. (Tibetan Autonomous Region)*, 2010. Acrylic on canvas, 33 x 66 in.

**Chris Mendoza** was born in Nicaragua and combines a love of the folk culture of his native country with the chaos and complexity of modern cities. His drawings, paintings, and collage compositions form his own visual index of the rhythms of the city and a catalog of the fragments of everyday experience. His inventive ink-on-paper drawings display a love of architectural draftsmanship and recall his love for the abstract works of Miro, Kandinsky, and Matta. Mendoza has had recent solo exhibitions in New York and Tokyo, and lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.



Chris Mendoza, *Construction*, 2010.  
Mixed media and sticker collage on paper. Detail.



Gaia, *Mies Van Der Rohe*, 2010. Ink and acrylic on paper. Detail.

**James Marshall (Dalek)** has been constantly developing his post-Pop painting style that abstracts graphic lines and color from street art, cartoons and animation, and the kaleidoscopic visual density of the city. He works in a superflat style, and developed his ideas further after year as Takashi Murakami's studio assistant in 2001. His recent work heightens geometric abstraction and color further as a way to represent the push and pull of the forces of chaos and order in contemporary life. Marshall has been in many exhibitions in New York, Paris, London, Los Angeles and with Irvine Contemporary in Washington, DC. He is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and, after many years in New York, lives and works in Raleigh, NC.

**Gaia** has quickly become recognized for his placement of prints and paintings on the streets in major cities. Drawing his imagery from archetypal animals, personal portraits, and art history, Gaia constructs linocut images and drawings that intervene in urban spaces for reflections on the human condition in nature and history. His studio projects combine collage, linocut prints, and painting, and have been exhibited in Brooklyn, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. Irvine Contemporary presented his recent solo show, *The Urban Romantic* (June, 2010). Gaia lives and works in Baltimore, MD, and Brooklyn, NY, and is a student at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, MD.