PRESS RELEASE

Gitlerg____

presents seven exhibitions and one artist-residency in Santa Barbara, CA

219 Gray Ave. Santa Barbara, CA 93101 July 3 - August 29, 2021 Gallery Hours: Wed - Sun, 12pm to 7pm (Mon - Tues, open by appointment) Receptions: Sat July 17, 5-8 PM & Sat August 7, 2021, 5-8 PM

(July 1, 2021) In the Winter of 2020, as the lockdown continued well into its tenth month, the New York based gallery Gitler & _____ was invited to Santa Barbara for the summer to present a series of exhibits in a *Funk Zone* neighborhood building, which has been home to various art programming over the last decade.

The gallery has chosen to curate seven exhibitions and to host one artist residency. The focus of these exhibits is to bring work by emerging and mid-career contemporary artists who have never exhibited in Santa Barbara. As gallery owner Avi Gitler pointed out "we have all been sequestered for a *very* long time, and we were thrilled at both the opportunity to spend the summer in a new environment, and to bring fresh work to Santa Barbara for everyone here who has been deprived these past 16 months of both new art and new experience."

The artists being exhibited are a mix of East Coast American and international artists. During July, *Gallery 1* will host a two-artist exhibit featuring the incisive American portraitists **Tom Sanford** (NY) and **Rebecca Morgan** (PA). The former is focused on life in urban America, specifically NYC, while the latter pays loving tribute to rural life in Appalachia, in all its color [Rebecca Morgan is exhibiting courtesy of Asya Geisberg Gallery).



Tom Sanford Patron Saint of Brooklyn (Spike Lee Icon) 2021 acrylic and fake gold on wood 48 x 36 inches



Rebecca Morgan Horrified Self-Portrait 2016 ink and watercolor on paper 8 x 5 inches

The adjacent *Gallery 2*, which normally functions as a small painting studio, has been converted into an exhibit space, and will host **Amanda Marrè Brown's** first solo exhibition *Gloaming in Wyoming*, a series of ethereal landscapes, made during an artist residency at the Jentel Foundation in March. *Gallery 3* will host Boston based sculptor **Damien Hoar de Galvan's** immediately identifiable patchwork wooden constructions.



Amanda Marrè Brown Gloaming in Wyoming 2021 oil on canvas 8 x 8 inches



Damien Hoar de Galvan The ragman 2021 various paints, wood, glue 14 x 10 x 3 inches In August, *Gallery 1* will host a pair of Brooklyn based artists, including the environmental painter **George Boorujy**, whose meticulously rendered work attests to his deep investigation of our changing natural world. He will be joined by the painter **Rachel Ostrow** whose cosmic abstractions abound with both a frenetic and calming energy at the very same time.



George Boorujy Scarlet Tanager 2020 oil on linen 18 x 14 inches



Rachel Ostrow Song Upon Song 2020 oil on panel 16 x 18 inches

In the adjoining spaces, two exhibits in August: *The Incident* from Spanish painter **Juan de la Rica**, the first solo American show of his joyful + charming tableaus. And Colombian painter **Esteban Ocampo-Giraldo**'s *Aqui y Allá*, an exhibit of 15 new paintings, all small jewels revealing an obvious affection for his native homeland, painted this year, after many years of NYC living.



Juan de la Rica The Incident 2020 oil on linen 28.5 x 23.5 inches



Esteban Ocampo Giraldo Cercas 2021 oil on panel 12 x 9 inches

Gallery 4 will be activated in August and will host **Sean Lotman**. Sean actually attended UCSB (a surprise to curator Avi Gitler) and has been living in Japan since 2003. In the first showcase of his work in the United States, Sean will show selected photos from his newest photo book, *The Sniper Paused So He Could Wipe His Brow*, to be published in July by *the (M) éditions* [Paris]. Finally, the Florida based artist couple **Boy Kong** and **Kirza Lopez** have been invited to spend the month in Santa Barbara. Both artists work in painting, sculpture, mural art, and more, and will create work based on their experience of Santa Barbara. A presentation of their work at the conclusion of their stay will be determined in mid-August.



Sean Lotman
Thar Desert, India
2008
chromogenic print, edition
1/5
14 x 11 inches



Boy Kong and Kirza Lopez painting a mural for the Jersey City Mural Festival, June 2021

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Gitler &_____ gallery is dedicated to showcasing and developing rising artists from around the world through exhibitions, public art and whatnot. For more info visit <u>www.gitlerand.com</u>

Schedule:

JULY [reception Saturday July 17, 5-8pm]

Gallery 1: July 3 – August 1 - Tom Sanford* (NY) and Rebecca Morgan (PA)

Gallery 2: July 3 – August 1 - Amanda Marrè Brown* (NY)

Gallery 3/4: July 3 – August 1 - Damien Hoar de Galvan (Massachusetts)

AUGUST [reception Saturday August 7, 5-8pm]

Gallery 1: August 4 - August 29 - George Boorujy* (NY) and Rachel Ostrow* (NY) Gallery 2: August 4 - August 29 - Esteban Ocampo-Giraldo (Colombia)

Gallery 3: July 22 - August 20 - Juan De La Rica (Spain)

Gallery 4: August 4 - August 29 - Sean Lotman* (Japan)

In Residency: August 4 - August 29 - Boy Kong (FL) and Kirza Lopez (FL)

*artist plans to attend reception

exhibitions presented with support from:



