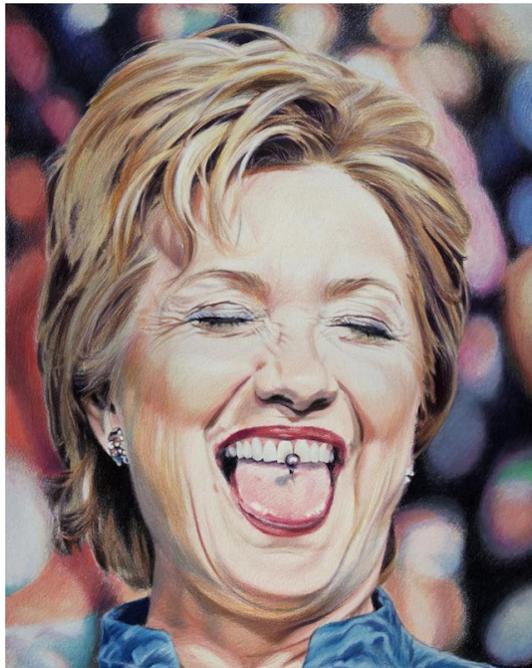


CULTURE | Hannah Ongley | 10 October, 2016

counterculture art show has trump's tombstone and a very nsfw title

The group exhibition 'Why I Want to Fuck Donald Trump' is thematically tied to JG Ballard's prophetic 1967 essay 'Why I Want to Fuck Ronald Reagan.'



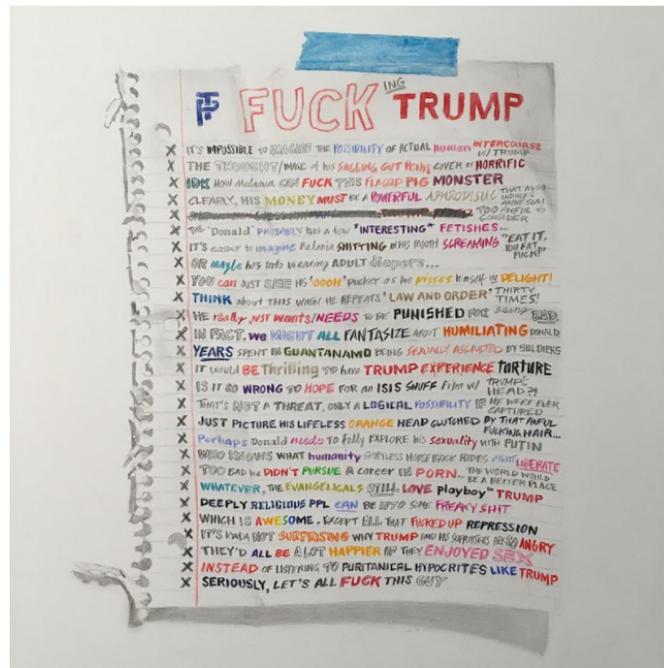
The most insane election in U.S. history has been a catalyst for some similarly insane art responses. Friday marked the opening of Mexican artist Pedro Reyes' incredible house of political horrors at the Brooklyn Army Terminal. On Saturday the heinous pro-Trump group disaster Daddy Will Save Us showcased #edgy paintings and performances from a mind-blowingly terrible lineup of people including Milo Yiannopoulos and Martin Shkreli. That show still unfortunately went down despite the Brooklyn gallery the organizer initially booked canceling at the last minute and threatening to donate all the proceeds to the Clinton campaign, but a second Trump-themed group show will at least give the local art community the chance to issue an on-theme response. Why I Want to Fuck Donald Trump will feature works thematically tied to JG Ballard's prophetic 1967 essay "Why I Want to Fuck Ronald Reagan." Incorporating everything from paintings to parody performances, the show "collectively comments on the intersection of American politics and the over-sexualized cult of celebrity, as well as the sensationalism surrounding politics, crystallized in this election."

The 21 artists in the show include Bushwick artist Rebecca Goyette of the recent multimedia exhibition Ghost Bitch U.S.A., and Brian Andrew Whiteley, who caused headlines when his Trump tombstone and its epitaph "Make America Hate Again" popped up in Central Park in March. Ana Wolovick's painting You Are Leaving the American Sector will

give a voice to marginalized groups by envisioning a world where a world where Trump has succeeded in erecting his wall on the Mexico/U.S. border. Lawyer/artist Sergio Muñoz Sarmiento has created a new work called Here I Sit, Lonely Hearted, Came to Shit but Only Farted, which incorporates a discarded and inverted Obama HOPE rally sign and addresses class conflict and loss of faith. Local photographer Tim Davis's piece Seven Entertainers sees Hillary Clinton sandwiched between over-sexualized presidents and fictional characters including Bill Clinton, JFK, Xena Warrior Princess, and Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Watercolorist Alfred Steiner, who curated the show, will exhibit caricatures of both candidates constructed from hardcore porn images of male and female genitalia.

While art has long been an important avenue through which to distill political issues, this election cycle has certainly caused an unprecedented level of heightened sensitivity to such creative expressions of opinion. Hopefully the exhibiting gallery is heightening their security system accordingly.

"Why I Want to Fuck Donald Trump" is on at Joshua Liner Gallery from October 13 through November 12, 2016.



William Powhida "Fuck(ing) Trump," 2016



David Levinthal "Trump," 2016