

# CIVILIAN

ART PROJECTS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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Civilian Art Projects is pleased to present two new exhibitions for the launch of the Fall season: *Pan's Pipes*, a collaborative installation by Ryan Hill, Erick Jackson and George Jenne; and, in the project space and entrance, *Site/Schema*, new work and site-specific installation by recent American University graduate Nikki Painter.

The exhibitions will open to the public on **Saturday, September 17, 2011** and will be on view through Saturday, October 22, 2011. Public exhibition hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. There will be an opening reception for the artists on Saturday, September 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Civilian Art Projects.

## ***Pan's Pipes* – Ryan Hill, Erick Jackson, George Jenne**



Artists Ryan Hill, Erick Jackson, and George Jenne investigate the counterculture vocabulary they grew up with to create the exhibition *Pan's Pipes*. With the goal of creating the psychological feel of headshops and other illicit spaces where teens go to escape the realities of family and school, the artists create new works on paper, sculpture, and a unique installation. According to the artists, these kinds of spaces were a combination of sights, sounds, literature, and even smells that would stimulate feelings of the fantastic and the forbidden. Posters, comic books, slogans, drug and sexual imagery are the inspiration for their works.

The exhibition encompasses two galleries in Civilian, including a "black light" store space and a large backroom filled with dozens of images, works on paper, sculpture, and found objects. While the artists do not literally create a headshop, their work explores a visual culture that once embraced other-ness and a kind of subjectivity rejected by mainstream culture. The work is both surrealist and psychedelic, combining imagery and objects to create psychological moods, dream states and poetic thinking.

**Ryan Hill** is a Los Angeles born, Washington, DC-based artist who also writes and performs. He earned a Master's degree in studio art from the California Institute of the Arts and a Master's degree in film and television from University of California. His drawing installations have been shown in Los Angeles, CA; New York City, NY; Washington, DC; and Melbourne, Australia. He has performed at colleges and art spaces including the L.A. County Museum of Art and LAX><ART in Los Angeles, White Box Gallery in New York, and Sculpture Center in Long Island NY, and P.S.1 Contemporary Arts Center in Long Island City, NY.

**Erick Jackson** graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1994. His painting, works on paper, and installations have been exhibited in museums and galleries in Washington, DC; New York; North Carolina; and Texas. He is also one-third of the new conceptual rock band Heavy Breathing.

**George Jenne** lives and works in North Carolina and New York. He graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1995. His sculptural work has been exhibited at the RISD Museum, Frosch & Portman, Exit Art, Jack the Pelican Presents, Envoy Enterprises, and PS122 in New York. His work has been reviewed in *The New Yorker*, *Art*

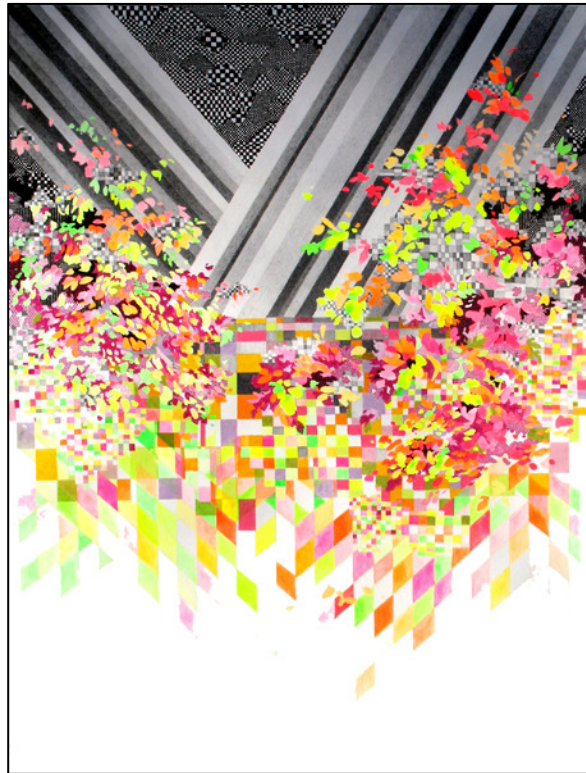


*in America*, and *The Washington Post*. He is currently in graduate school at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill where he is also adjunct faculty.

## **Site/Schema: New Work by Nikki Painter**

Civilian Art Projects presents *Site/Schema*, new drawings and site-specific installation by Nikki Painter. In her second solo exhibition at the gallery, Painter's works continue to develop and expand a set of images, bright colors, and patterns to investigate the ways in which chaos and order interact and co-exist. She will exhibit new works on paper and two site-specific installations, one in the project space and one in "The Entrance," our new foyer space made available for experiments and artist-directed projects.

The intensity and complexity of Painter's work has increased as her considerations of its meaning has deepened, leading to new discoveries. According to the artist, "I continue to develop and expand a set of images, colors, patterns, and marks to investigate ways in which they interact and coexist. Various configurations of signs and symbols serve as stand-ins for personal experiences and as metaphors for broader truths about the cyclical nature of relationships."



Painter graduated in 2009 with an MFA in Studio Art from American University. She received her BFA in painting and printmaking from the Virginia Commonwealth University. She is the 2009 recipient of a Mellon Research grant, the Wolpoff Purchase Award, and Best in Show from the Rawls Museum in Courtland, VA. Painter has had solo exhibitions with Civilian Art Projects, by whom she is represented in Washington, DC, and with the Rawls Museum in Courtland, Virginia. Her work has been shown at SCOPE Miami through Civilian Art Projects, X-Initiative's "No Soul for Sale" via Transformer, the Contemporary Art Center of Virginia, and in *New American Paintings*, as well as being part of the Katzen Museum's permanent collection in D.C. and numerous private collections. Nikki Painter currently resides in Chesterfield, Virginia.

For more information or high-resolution images, please contact the gallery.

**Civilian Art Projects** is an art gallery based in Washington, D.C. existing to support the voice and vision of the artist. The gallery is located in the Shaw neighborhood in downtown Washington near many major museums, galleries, and national treasures. For more information, please visit [www.civilianartprojects.com](http://www.civilianartprojects.com).