

Stranger Factory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 2012

Travis Lampe "*The Pit of Unease*"

Doubleparlour "*Anomie*"

Jon MacNair "*Mystic Visions*"

Joel Nakamura "*Kaiju Vs. Yokai*"

September 7 – October 1, 2012

Opening Reception: Friday, Sept. 7, 6-9pm

Artists will be in attendance

Stranger Factory is proud to present four solo exhibitions that explore the magic and mystery of otherworldly creatures.

Join Travis Lampe in **The Pit of Unease**, a new collection of 2D works that chronicles his descent into the bowels of the earth. Ready your tights and ridiculous hats, for you are about to encounter some of the most dangerous and improbable creatures ever painted! From pugnacious owls to wacky wizards and other silly, elbowless characters, strange things are afoot in The Pit of Unease!

Anomie features new work by formidable sculpting duo, Doubleparlour. Prepare to venture into the landscape of giants, cat-human hybrids and two-headed children, where each character is more enigmatic than the last. Armed with personalities ranging from contemplative to lighthearted to mischievous, one is encouraged to expect the unexpected from these chimerical creatures.

With **Mystic Visions**, Jon MacNair takes us back in time with work inspired by mythical beings and medieval woodcuts. This body of work is strung together by a thread of mystery and magic that seems to permeate the narrative quality of the images. Ghostly beings, beasts, spirits and other unearthly creatures are commonplace in the environments Jon creates. Each drawing acts like a vignette or tale that has no real beginning or end, but alludes to a definite hierarchy of creatures and characters that populate these stories.

Finally, we have the rare opportunity to rifle through Joel Nakamura's old toy box with **Kaiju Vs. Yokai**, a 2D exhibition showcasing Nakamura's fascination with Yokai and Kaiju monsters. Japan has a long tradition with the strange and the supernatural. In ancient times, bizarre creatures and apparitions were known as Yokai. In modern times, the Japanese love of monsters and super heroes would be known as Kaiju of Japanese film: strange beasts that every generation seemingly rediscovers. Nakamura pays tribute to these cultural icons with bold, explosive paintings of his own interpretations

of Gojira, Ultraman and Astro Boy.

ARTIST BIOS:

Travis Lampe grew up in a relatively adventure-free small town in Kansas. Since then he's experienced firsthand the thrill of descending perilously into his basement to paint dumb things that amuse him. He's exhibited the products of these adventures around the U.S. and Europe.

Website and social media : www.travislampe.com | @travislampe

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Founded in November 2007, **Doubleparlour** is Ernie and Cassandra Velasco. They are a husband and wife artistic collaboration living in San Francisco, CA. Cassandra has a B.A. in Fine Art from Humboldt State University and Ernie is a self taught artist.

Doubleparlour produces work in a variety of mediums; however, their primary focus is on making hand-formed resin sculptures. They strive to produce well-crafted and affordable artwork with an emphasis on peculiar, humorous and melancholy characters. This character driven approach to sculpting results in figures that seem to pondering their past and present situation with a sort of disenchantment. The narrative however is left up to the viewer. At times the work references deeper underlying themes of human existence such as social alienation, purpose, and one's relationship with both the natural and artificial world.

Their work can be found in your mama's living room as well as at galleries nationwide and also at conventions, fairs and on-line. They have fans, collectors and frenemies worldwide.

Website and social media : www.doubleparlour.com | @doubleparlour

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Award –winning artist **Joel Nakamura** is known for his unique style: a blend of folk art and sophisticated iconography rendered in a neo-primitive technique. He is chosen for many of his commissions for his knowledge of tribal art, mythology, and for his ability to convey stories and information in an intricate and engaging manner.

Nakamura's ability to render humanity in such primal, edgy hues has captured the attention of clients like Time magazine, US News and World Report, and the Los Angeles Times. His paintings have enlivened the pages of many other books and publications, as well as the 2002 Winter Olympics opening and closing ceremonies' programs. Nakamura has been profiled in Communication Arts, Step Inside Design, Confetti and Southwest Art magazines. He is proud to be the recipient of over two hundred awards of excellence.

Nakamura splits his time between commercial and fine art projects. His work is in numerous private and corporate collections, including Wynonna Judd, Chick Corea ,and US embassies around the world.

Nakamura resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with his wife Kathleen and children, Paloma and Kai.

Website and social media : www.joelnakamura.com | facebook.com/joel.nakamura.3

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Jon MacNair is a graduate of The Maryland Institute College of Art, where he earned a BFA in Illustration. His commercial work has appeared in various editorial publications as well been used for package design and apparel.

He has exhibited his personal work at galleries worldwide, having shown in cities such as New York, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, D.C., London and Glasgow. Publications like Beautiful Decay, Faesthetic, Elle Girl and Empty Magazine have also featured his work. He is an active member of the Honeycomb Art Collective (based out of Buenos Aires and New York) and has participated in many projects and exhibitions with them as well.

Jon currently resides in Portland, OR.

Website and social media : www.jonmacnair.com | @jlmacnair

STRANGER FACTORY brings a fresh perspective to the American art + design scene, connecting world class artists from the Pop Surrealist and Lowbrow movements to New Mexico. Dedicated to providing aspiring art collectors the opportunity to begin their collections with original artworks and limited edition releases at affordable prices, Stranger Factory is not only a collaborative effort among the artists, but between the space and its patrons as well.

109 Carlisle Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
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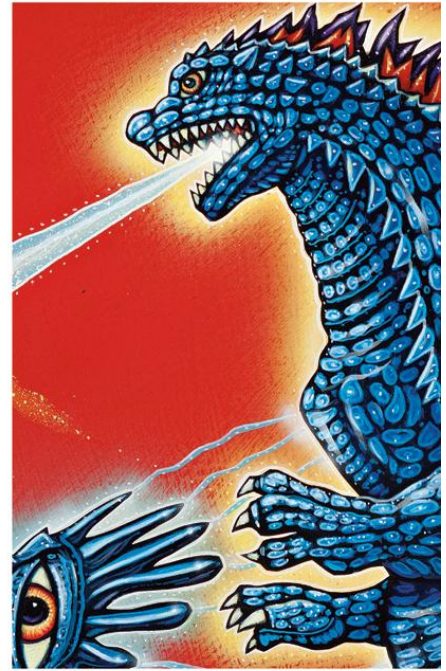
We're open:

Mon - Thurs: 11am - 6pm

Fri-Sat: 11am - 7pm

Sunday: 11am - 5pm

& by appointment



Travis Lampe doubleparlour Joel Nakamura Jon MacNair
Sept 7th - Oct 2nd, 2012



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HOURS

Mon - Thurs: 11 AM - 6 PM
 Fri - Sat: 11 AM - 7 PM
 Sun: 12 PM - 6 PM

TRAVIS LAMPE
DOUBLEPARLOUR
JOEL NAKAMURA
JON MACNAIR

Sept 7th - Oct 2nd, 2012

OPENING RECEPTION: Sept 7th (6-9 PM)

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Weekend workshop with artist **Joel Nakamura**
 Check circusposterus.com for more class info!

WWW.CIRCUSPOSTERUS.COM















