

:: GRANT WAHLQUIST GALLERY

ALTER-EGO

11/2/18 – 12/1/18

Baxter Koziol, Julien Langevin, Megan Mosca, Kevin Mosca, Oliver, Brendan Ripken Shea

Grant Wahlquist Gallery is pleased to present **ALTER-EGO**, a group exhibition curated by artists Kevin Mosca and Julien Langevin. The exhibition will run from November 2, 2018 through December 1, 2018. The gallery will hold an opening reception on Friday, November 2 from 5 – 8 pm. **Please note the gallery will be open by appointment only November 21 – 24.**

ALTER-EGO presents works by five painters that use the figure to contextualize an alter-ego or another “self.” Segmented Identity: how many segments? How many facets of identity can be exposed before a portrait becomes representation, and not an alias? Merriam Webster’s Dictionary defines an alter-ego as “a second or different version of oneself,” such as “an intimate and trusted friend” or “the opposite side of a personality.” As artists that work in malleable media that are exterior to ourselves, we find that our artwork represents an alternative identity or an “alter-ego” to our own subjective selves.

The work of the artists in “alter-Ego” is primarily portraiture—however not necessarily self-portraiture. Alternatively, the work reflects both a self-portrait, a narrative portrait, and also a portrait of the viewer as they view and reflect. Kevin Mosca (Brooklyn, NY) paints portraits of god. These images present the shape of a head peering through the overall pattern of crinkled aluminum foil. The paintings play with light, space, and testimonies of faith.

Julien Langevin’s (Portland, ME) work revolves around the idea of identity, familiarity, and belonging. His paintings show genderless bodies participating in sports or standing alone stagnantly, performing a role. Brendan Ripken Shea’s (Portland, ME) paintings display affection and touch, their figures interacting with objects and other figures to form tender visual relationships.

Oliver (Portland, ME) presents work that involves performance and critiques the role of the artist and the museum as institution. Their videos and objects use repurposed materials to convey critique and narrative. Baxter Koziol’s (Portland, ME) full-body suits also speak to reinvention, forming recycled skins that animate themselves through material and form. They are simultaneously documentary and portraiture. Megan Mosca (Brooklyn, NY) creates garments of self-reflection. Viewing clothing as the skin one gets to choose, she prints statements about the less visible functions of clothing, diversifying conversations around the garment.

- Julien Langevin and Kevin Mosca

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The gallery is located at 30 City Center, Portland, Maine. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm, and by appointment. **Please note the gallery will be open by appointment only November 21 – 24 and December 26 – January 5.** For more information, visit <http://grantwahlquist.com>, call 207.245.5732, or email info@grantwahlquist.com.

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Prudence Ho (b. 1995, Hong Kong) is a conceptual artist based in Portland, Maine. They studied in Academy of Visual Arts in Hong Kong Baptist University and are currently a senior majoring in Painting and minoring in Art History at the Maine College of Art. Their works have been included in exhibitions both in Hong Kong and Maine. Focusing on institutional critique, apocryphal narration and archives, their art practice includes installation, video, performance, painting, and drawing. Interested in cult religions and spirituality, Ho also studies and writes about Ufology and Moon conspiracies theories.

Baxter Koziol (b. 1995, New York State) lives in Portland, Maine, where he earned his BFA in painting from Maine College of Art in 2017. He has exhibited work at Boston University Galleries, the Everhart Museum in Scranton, Pennsylvania, SADE Gallery in Los Angeles, California, Able Baker Contemporary in Portland, Maine, and the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in Rockland. In 2016 he attended the Yale University Norfolk Summer School of Art, and in 2017 was a participant in the Hewnoaks Artist Colony and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

Julien Langevin (b. 1996, Cape Cod, Massachusetts) is a queer artist, critic, and social activist based in Portland, Maine. Langevin is primarily interested in the development of the self, particularly the socially deviant self. The focus of their personal work encompasses contemporary issues of queerness, patriarchy, and institutional critique, with a tinge of interest in metaphysics and phenomenology.

Kevin Mosca (b.1993, Albany, New York) lives in Brooklyn, New York. Mosca received his associates degree at Hudson Valley Community College, and his BFA degree at Maine College Of Art in 2018. Mosca's work explores ideas of faith, Christianity, and sub-genres of film and music.

Megan Mosca (b.1994, Dallas, Texas) is pursuing a degree in fashion design from the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York. She received associates degrees from Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, New York, and the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City. Mosca's work has been shown in group shows at Hudson Valley Community College and at the New York State Museum.

Brendan Ripken Shea lives in Portland, Maine, where he received a BFA in Painting from Maine College of Art in 2018. Shea has exhibited at SPACE Gallery, Border Patrol, The Bob Crewe Gallery, The ICA at Maine College of Art, North River Art Society, and New System Exhibitions. He has attended the Hewnoaks Artist Colony and received the Maine College of Art's Professional Development and Entrepreneurship Grant. In 2018 Shea was the recipient of the Nancy Stewart Deming Endowed Scholar Award for excellence in painting and Eduloa Memorial Gross Service Award.