

ANAT EBGI



Bye Jay Stuckey, by Jay Stuckey March 2017



Installation view, 2017. Courtesy of Anat Ebgi, Los Angeles.

Anat Ebgi presents *Bye Jay Stuckey, by Jay Stuckey*, the third solo exhibition of Jay Stuckey at the gallery. In a monumental salon-style presentation using 18 feet of the gallery walls, the show presents several bodies of work made throughout the past five years that highlight Stuckey's preoccupations with creating an entirely new pictorial language.

Stuckey's work operates on the premise of the real and imagined. Daily routines, lovers, anxieties, personal and public histories cast a nebulous galaxy of characters and situations in an illusory, dreamlike presence. Navigating this limitless material is the representation of the dark-haired "every man" traveling between mundane tasks, house fires, battles with himself, bandits and scantily clad cheerleaders.

Equally humorous as dark and melancholic, Stuckey taps into an expressionist desire to communicate using text messages, semaphore and his unique iconographic language where the lines between art and his life become evermore porous. Each canvas becomes diaristic, where the subject is often a stand-in for the artist himself. Notations, names, reminders and aspirations are scattered about his compositions, punctuating the atmosphere of the paintings and binding them to the real. Through working in this firstperson tense, Stuckey's archetypal images touch something universal—feelings that transcend both artist and viewer to reach the innately human.