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JANUARY 21, 2015 | NASTIA VOYNOVSKAYA[HTTPS://HIFRUCTOSE.COM/AUTHOR/NASTIA/]

ON VIEW: MARK JENKINS'S "MOMENT OF IMPACT" AT LAZARIDES GALLERY

An uncanny valley tears open when viewing Mark Jenkins's (http://www.xmarkjenkinsx.com/) sculptures of verisimilar human figures. His work triggers the discomfort and fear we instinctively feel upon encountering something that looks almost human, but not quite. Jenkins's latest solo show, "Moment of Impact," is currently on view at Lazarides Gallery (http://www.lazinc.com/) in London through February 5.

With his hyperrealist sculptures, Jenkins transforms the ordinary gallery-going experience into what looks like a Hollywood-produced heist frozen in time. A foot kicks through a placid still life painting in one piece. The sculpture aggressively protrudes from the painting's surface, creating a scene that resembles the instant before a ninja bursts through the wall. In other works, figures in dark hoods brandish sharp knives and flower bouquets. With so many recent stories of high-end art theft and vandalism in the news, these dummy-like sculptures activate our paranoia and invite us to imagine an epic thriller unfolding.

Check out our feature on Jenkins in Hi-Fructose Vol. 24 (http://store.hifructose.com/products/hi-fructose-volume-24-preorder) to learn more about the artist.



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JUNE 9, 2014

Banksy began his career by taking up wall space without permission for his street art. But his work has become so financially successful that established art institutions, ironically enough, have scrambled to become part of the Banksy mythology regardless of the artist's consent. Following the recent, controversial "Stealing Banksy" show, where Banksy's street art pieces mysterious appeared in a gallery setting, carved from the walls on which they originally appeared, London auction house and gallery Sotheby's (http://www.sothebys.com/) is slated to open "Banksy: The Unauthorized Retrospective" on June 11.

LUDO’S LATEST STREET ART IN THE CARIBBEAN, JAPAN AND THAILAND (HTTPS://HIFRUCTOSE.COM/2014/08/15/LUDOS-LATEST-STREET-ART-IN-THE-CARIBBEAN-JAPAN-AND-THAILAND/)

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AUGUST 15, 2014

Ludo (http://thisisludo.com/) is a French artist known for pasting up black and white images with neon green accents on the streets on Paris and worldwide. His imagery often shows mutilated insects, animals, plants or different life forms with added mechanical parts. Strongly influenced by cyberpunk and punk imagery from the '90s, his works comment on the way humans interact and interfere with nature. His limited color palette is a nod to DIY punk culture with its lo-fi, self-published zines and records, and certainly adds a feeling of rawness to his work.

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