

illegallery

SWAUSTIN

New and Improved Materialism

June 24 - July 14

Opening Reception

June 23 6 - 11 pm

Artist talk

June 30 2 - 4 pm

Toronto, ON -

ILLEGALLERY is pleased to present Canadian artist SWAUSTIN 's exhibition: NEW AND IMPROVED MATERIALISM. This will mark the first exhibition we have with the artist in our gallery.

NEW AND IMPROVED MATERIALISM is a display of constructed paintings that convey power and presence. The treatment of material in this exhibit is a symphony of sounds, surfaces, and colours. The artist invokes the lost spiritual experience that people trade in when engaging in the traditional aspects of materialism. The large works are larger than life and take on various aspects of detail from macro to micro in one piece. The apparent chaos that overcomes the pieces is tempered by the masterful hand of SWAUSTIN to bring each piece into an introspective conclusion.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

SWAUSTIN has been living and painting in Hamilton for the past ten years. After a long stint in advertising and commercial manipulation, he has embarked on a compelling personal journey asking one question. "What is a painting?". His paintings are an alchemic fusion of expressive paint and often three dimensional surface. In his endeavour to explore what painting can be, he "constructs" each painting – it may be said that he "makes" a painting rather than "paints" it.

His painted and drawn marks cannot be confined to figurative or abstract polarities. They subliminally reference everything from architecture to landscape, to ancient hieroglyphics. Fluent in their use of colour, they fuse with his disrupted and sculptural surfaces to create powerful and vital paintings that demand to be experienced one-on-one for serious engagement." (Geoffrey Nawn 2016).

He makes use of every material imaginable, being fully aware of the piles of waste our society creates. His paintings are in collections around the world and continues to forge an integral path within the North American art scene.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

ILLEGALLERY is presenting works that focus mostly on the contemporary post-urban art movement. Understanding the fundamental gritty essence of all Street Art & Graffiti is lost in the gallery environment. We focus on the artist and provide a space for their unique creative perspective to flourish and communicate with the viewer. Focussing on original works, the gallery is a venue for the discriminating conscientious collector.