



THE COME UP

CO-CURTED BY ALVARO ILIZARBE & DOUG CROCCO
JANUARY 17 — FEBRUARY 7 2026
GALLERY SADE LOS ANGELES // 204 S AVENUE 19 90031
SADE-LA.COM // @SADELOSANGELES

//THE COME UP// IS AN EXHIBITION EXPLORING MOMENTS OF SUDDEN ASCENT — WHEN CHANCE, RISK, AND INTUITION CONVERGE TO ALTER ONE’S PATH. WHILE THE PHRASE OFTEN EVOKES IDEAS OF HUSTLE, HEISTS, OR LUCKY BREAKS, IT ALSO GESTURES TOWARD UNEXPECTED ENLIGHTENMENT. THROUGH PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND DRAWING, THE EXHIBITION TRACES ENCOUNTERS WITH TREASURE — SOMETIMES TAKEN, SOMETIMES FOUND — AND THE STRENGTH AND INSIGHT GAINED THROUGH SUCH MOMENTS

GALLERY SADE LOS ANGELES PRESENTS //THE COME UP// A SPECIAL CURATORIAL GROUP SHOW PROJECT CO-CURATED BY ALVARO ILIZARBE + DOUG CROCCO FEATURING ADRIAN CONTRERAS, ALEX SEWELL, ALVARO ILIZARBE, ASHLEY WAGNER, BRICE JAMES, BRANDON ELIJAH JOHNSON, DOUG CROCCO, FLORA MOTTINI, JACKSON CASADY, KADY GRANT, KYT, LAURA WATTERS, LUIS FLORES, MAX RIPPON, MAXWELL SYKES, MEEGAN BARNES, MIKE CHATTEM, TOM DELANEY, AND ZOE ALAMEDA

//THE COME UP// WILL BE ON VIEW EVERY SATURDAY + SUNDAY 1-6PM UNTIL FEBRUARY 7TH AND AT ALL OTHER TIMES BY PRIVATE VIEWING APPOINTMENTS

FOR INQUIRIES + PRIVATE VIEWING APPOINTMENTS + EVENT INFO CONTACT SADE-LA@SADE-LA.COM OR [@SADELOSANGELES](https://www.instagram.com/sadelosangeles)

THE COME UP // INSTALLATION VIEWS



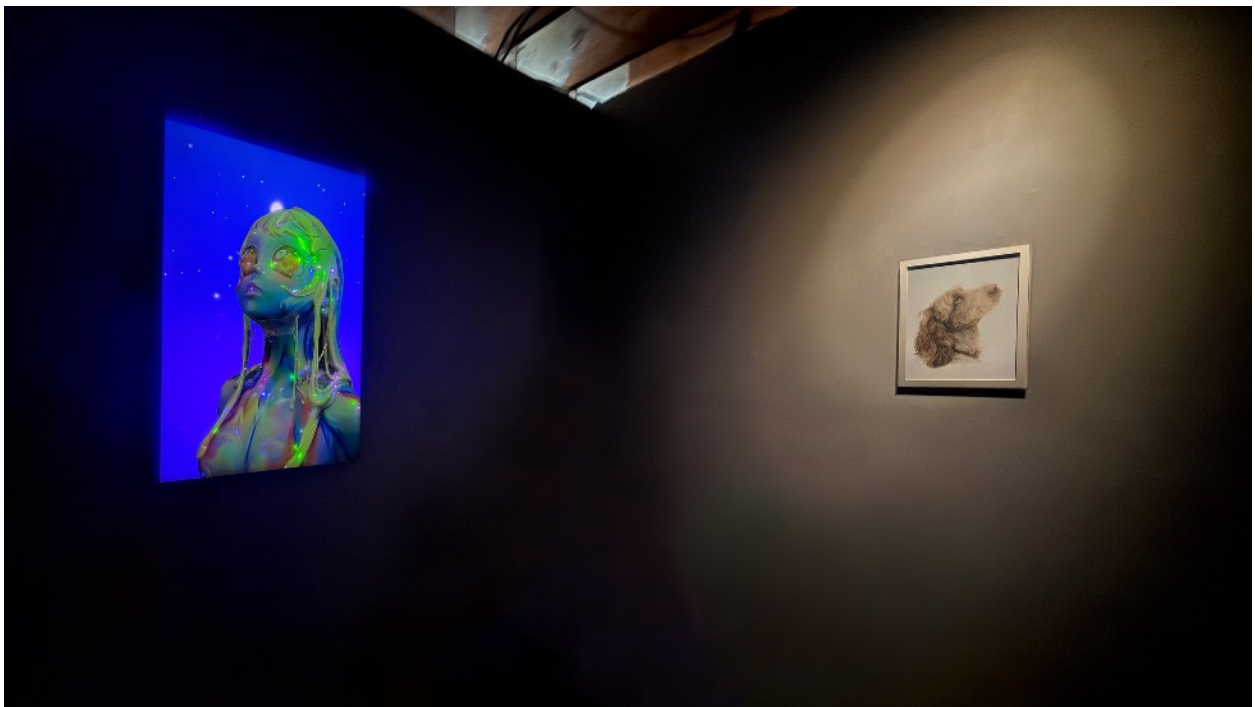
THE COME UP // INSTALLATION VIEWS



THE COME UP // INSTALLATION VIEWS



THE COME UP // INSTALLATION VIEWS



THE COME UP

Flora Mottini (b. 1985) is a Swiss artist based in Geneva. She received a BFA in Visual Arts from ECAL and an MFA from HEAD – Geneva. Her practice is grounded in an expanded approach to painting, situated between abstraction and figuration. Shaped by popular culture, psychedelia, and magical realism, her work develops soft, cosmic, immersive landscapes structured around the notions of horizon and perception, where softness becomes political.



FLORA MOTTINI
City Warp (2025)
Acrylic on Dibond Aluminum Composite Panel
41" x 60" x 2" (103cm x 153cm x 5cm)

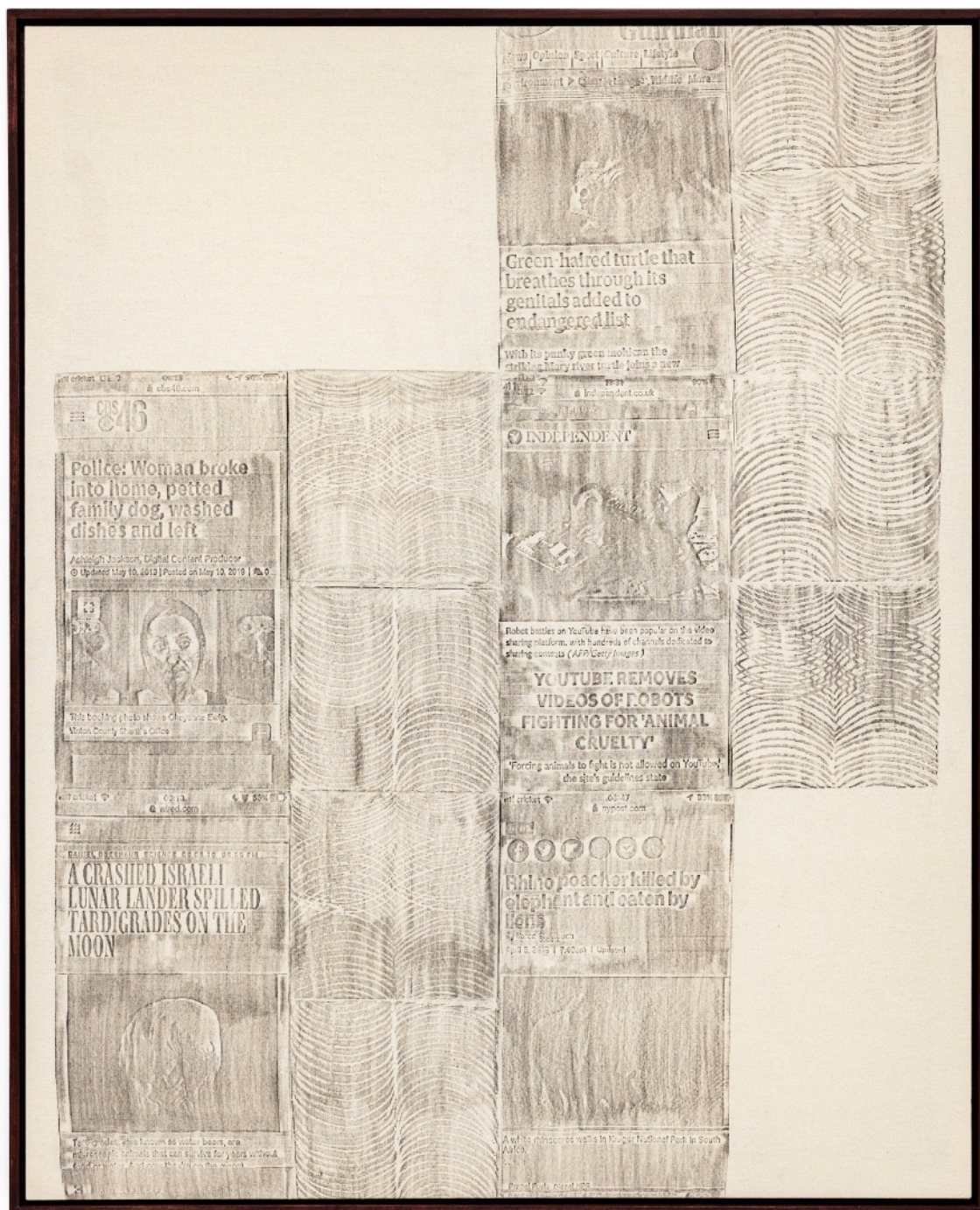
THE COME UP



FLORA MOTTINI
City Warp - Riso (2025)
1 of 1 Riso Print on Archive Paper
Print 4.75" x 7.25" (12cm x 19cm)
Frame 9.5" x 11.25" (24cm x 29cm)

THE COME UP

Max Rippon is an artist and curator based in Los Angeles. His studio work and archival project Artist News Network examine the narratives, distortions, and psychological effects of contemporary news media. His research and curatorial practices often overlap, as he collects and archives news stories through dialogue with other artists and develops work from these exchanges. Through this process, he considers how images, language, behavioral patterns, archives, and authorship shape public understanding of the past, present, and future.



MAX RIPPON

Police Woman Broke Lunar Lander Breathes Through Robots Elephant And, 2019

Graphite on Canvas (Artist Frame)

63.75" x 51.75" (162cm x 132cm)



MAX RIPPON
Police Woman Broke Lunar Lander Breathes Through Robots Elephant And, 2019

DETAIL VIEW

THE COME UP

One Bad Apple // A parked car beside a fallen apple. Printed on shipping labels, meticulously calculated, strip by strip. The machine would shut off trying to print blacked-out sheets. I'd have to start all over. "Thank You Lord" fills in these empty gaps. An image of a tattooed hand is hidden behind. Laser printed on copy paper, tiled one by one and sealed with sticky gel on canvas. I've been thinking a lot about how difficult it is to be truly vulnerable with others and with oneself. The work leans on the idea of window blinds or a curtain. I imagine a gust of wind pushing thermal strips out of line, disrupting the perfect, still, legible image, to which only then the viewer would be able to catch a glimpse of what's underneath. — Zoe Alameda



ZOE ALAMEDA
One Bad Apple (2025)
Thermal Labels, Sharpie, Steel, Hardware, Slag Rock,
Laser Prints and Tar Gel on Canvas
78" x 96" (198cm x 244cm)

THE COME UP



ZOE ALAMEDA
One Bad Apple (2025)

DETAIL VIEWS



ADRIAN CONTRERAS
Tumbado (2025)
24" x 18" (61cm x 46cm)
Acrylic on Wood Panel

THE COME UP



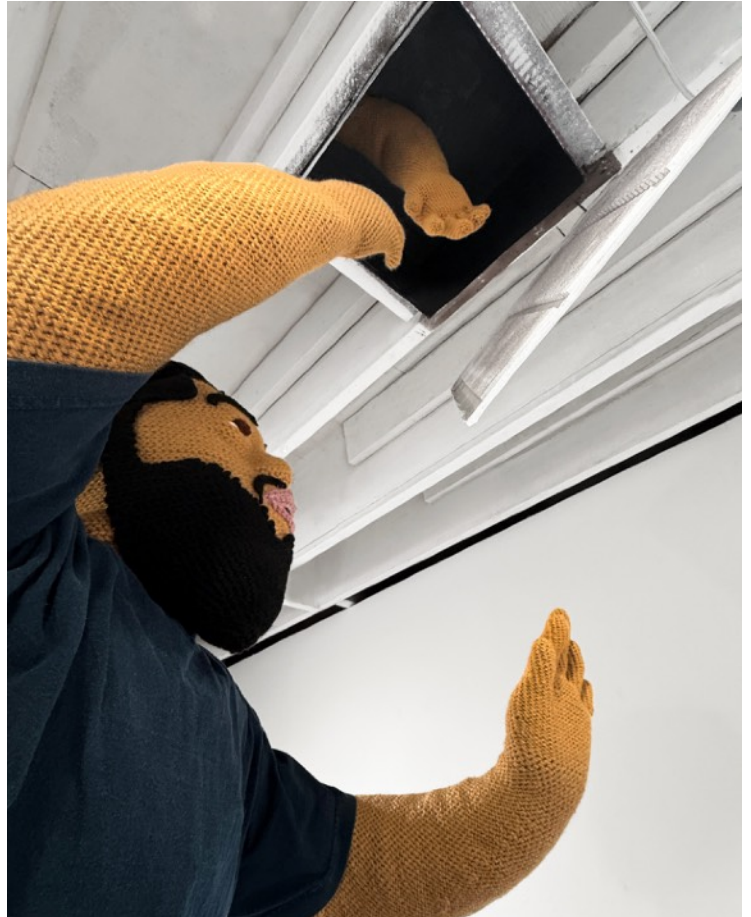
LUIS FLORES

If You Want To Go Far, Go Together (2021/2026)

Yarn, AAA T-shirt, Levi's Jeans, Vans Shoes, Socks, Steel, EPS Foam, Polyurethane Foam, Duct Tape, Steel Wire

Dimensions variable APX 108" x 36" x 24"

THE COME UP

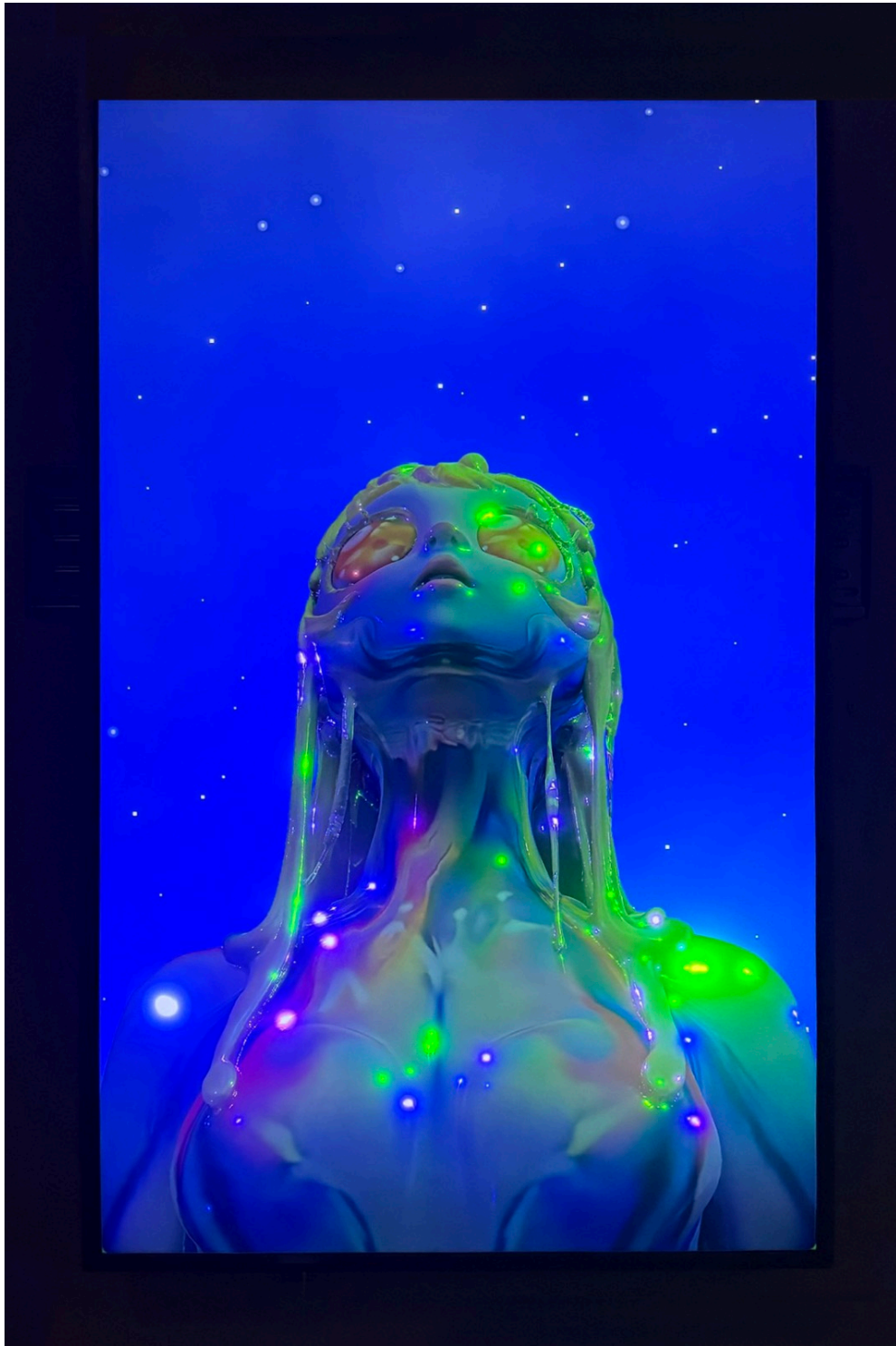


LUIS FLORES
If You Want To Go Far, Go Together (2021/2026)

DETAIL VIEWS

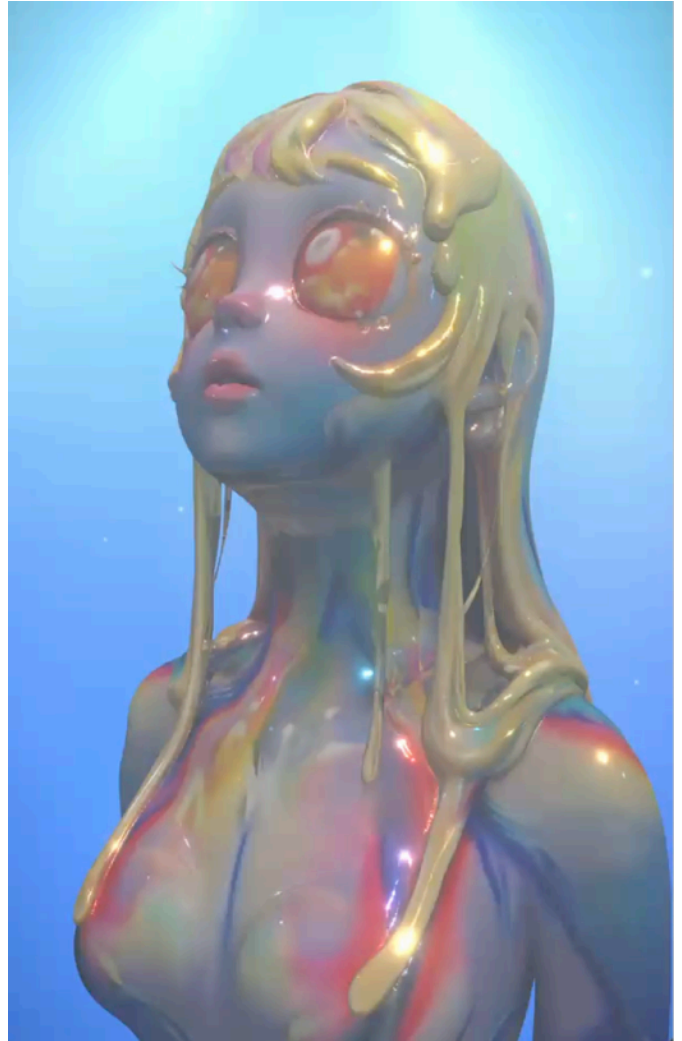
THE COME UP

Kyt's *Tomorrow* is a meditation on waiting and on how waiting changes you and is a realtime 3-dimensional digital sculpture that evolves over daily, monthly, and yearly cycles — constantly growing and decaying and reacting to weather and light — inspired by what the most optimistic two words in the english language — “Tomorrow morning”. (<https://tomorrow.gallery>)



KYT
Tomorrow (2026)
Paint, WebGL, Time, HD Monitor, Mac Mini
23" x 38" (59cm x 97cm)

THE COME UP



KYT
Tomorrow (2026)

DETAIL VIEWS

^^ CLICK IMAGES TO PLAY ^^

THE COME UP

Alvaro Ilizarbe was born in Lima, Peru and lives and works in Los Angeles. Drifting between painting, immersive installation, and sculpture, Ilizarbe's work responds to its surroundings, immersing those surroundings in his intricate world. Using patterns, cypher, pre-Columbian linework, and the language of advertising, Ilizarbe creates work that explores the energy in between things, and forms multiple dialogues with its surroundings. Ilizarbe's work often responds to the architecture of the space, completely changing it, and offering the viewer a separate universe within which to exist, like stepping into the other side of a mirror.



ALVARO ILIZARBE
The Come Up (2023)
18" x 38.5" x .75" (46cm x 98cm x 2cm)
Acrylic on Routed MDF

THE COME UP



ALVARO ILIZARBE
The Come Up (2023)

DETAIL VIEW

THE COME UP

Mike Chattem is an artist who lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. His recent solo exhibitions include Gattopardo and SPRING/BREAK Art Show, both in Los Angeles. Selected group exhibitions include Moosey in Norwich, UK, Hashimoto in Los Angeles, SAP Space in Berlin, Steve Turner in Los Angeles, Torrance Art Museum in Torrance, CA, and SOIL Gallery in Seattle. He holds an BFA from The Cleveland Institute of Art and has most recently been an artist in residence at Foundation OBRAS in Evoramonte, Portugal. His work is part of the permanent collections at the Aster in Los Angeles and Mindspace, NY and has been featured in New American Paintings, ArtsInSquare Magazine and Hyperallergic. In addition to maintaining a rigorous studio practice he has collaborated with various galleries in Los Angeles in a curatorial capacity organizing exhibitions with a primary focus on bringing together LA based art communities.



MIKE CHATTEM
Wishing Well (2026)
Upholstered Fabric Catalytic Converter Genie Lamp on Custom
Shaped Panel, Rope Trim, Acrylic on Canvas and Epoxy Resin
48" x 40" x 3" (122cm x 102cm x 7cm)

THE COME UP



MIKE CHATTEM
Wishing Well (2026)

DETAIL VIEW



BRANDON ELIJAH JOHNSON
Fight Club (2023)
Oil on Canvas
20" x 16" (51cm x 41cm)



KADY GRANT
Painting of Pat Lasch, "Birthing my Hisband" Edition 2/4, 1994, FBI Reference Number 00721 (2025)
Oil on Canvas
12" x 10" (31cm x 25cm)

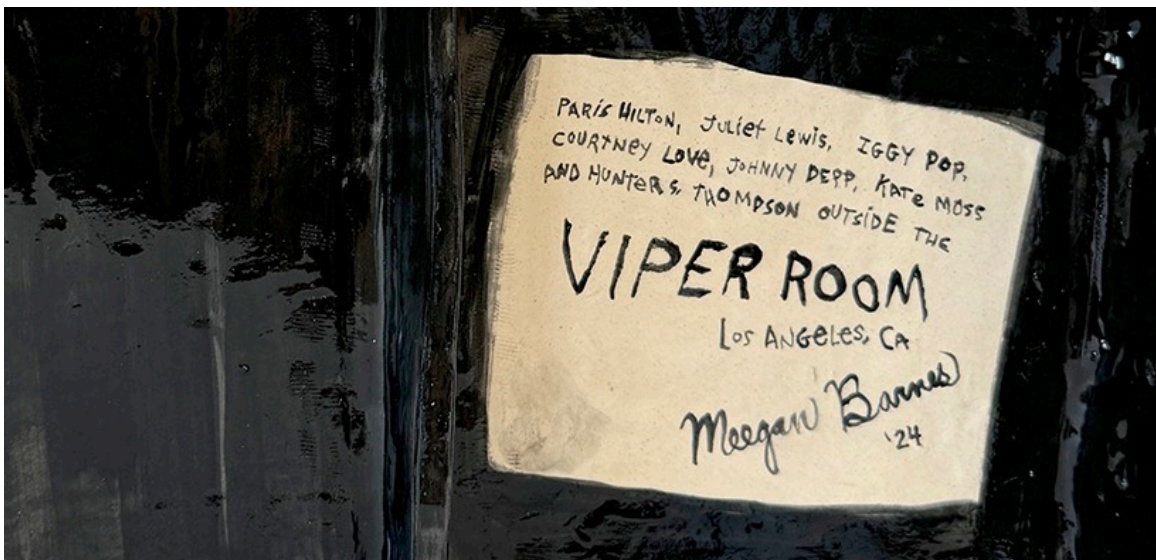
THE COME UP

Meegan Barnes is a ceramic artist and painter whose work blends pop culture, music, architecture and art history into her signature “ceramic-scapes.” Each piece is like a snapshot of a moment or a place, part personal memory, part collective nostalgia. Whether she’s capturing a city’s energy or riffing on a familiar scene, it’s through her unique personal lens and infused with Meegan’s unmistakable style and wit. Meegan graduated with a BFA from CCA in Oakland CA. Her work has been shown in numerous galleries and art fairs in LA, SF, New York, Aspen, Paris and Brussels.



MEEGAN BARNES
The Viper Room (2024)
Glazed Ceramic Stoneware
H16" x W18" x D10" (41cm x 46cm x 26cm)

THE COME UP



MEEGAN BARNES
The Viper Room (2024)

DETAIL VIEWS

THE COME UP



DOUG CROCCO
Ghost Gun / The Trajectory Of Radical Politics (2018)
Color Pencil on Paper (Framed)
24" x 36" (61cm x 92cm)

THE COME UP

Thomas DeLaney is a New York based artist and musician who incorporates digital-based media into his paintings and drawings. His process utilizes cross-platform combinations of data output from television, film, video, hi and lo-res digital images to weave elegiac meditations on void, self and loss. DeLaney's practice of appropriation centers on destabilizing imagery by modifying context to reorganize meaning. This practice goes further to locate incidental images of excess which reveal the uncoordinated instinctual drives of the psychic substratum. He has played with Tits Dick Ass, Viva L'American Death Ray Music, Door Dogs, Prints, Marcus, Arturo Bandinis, Slav Sister and Dr. Now.



TOM DELANEY
Knife Display (2016)
Oil on Canvas with Grommets
62" x 70" (158cm x 178cm)

THE COME UP



TOM DELANEY
Knife Display (2016)

DETAIL VIEW

THE COME UP

Casady's work relies on wistful and peculiar narratives, often pointing a sharp stick at entertainment culture, art history tropes, masculine archetypes, and himself. Human idiosyncrasies, a satirical wit, and absurdity are the foundation. In his newest work, Casady employs a meticulous layering of sprayed acrylic washes to achieve diffused painterly properties. He calls this method "Atomism." If Pointillism is a technique of building up a brilliant image using various small dots of pure color, Atomism is the process of softening a sharp image by using layers of atomized dots of color. Casady lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.



JACKSON CASADY
1 Memory and Matches
Acrylic on canvas
24" x 24" (61cm x 61cm) (framed)

THE COME UP



JACKSON CASADY
Borrowed Comfort
Acrylic on canvas
13" x 13" (33cm x 33cm) Framed



LAURA WATTERS
The Stars Were Shouting In Heaven, The Sun Was Chasing The
Moon (2026)
Oil on Linen
12" x 9" (31cm x 23cm)

THE COME UP



ALEX SEWELL
Get There Firsts, With The Mostest (2018)
Oil on Canvas
18" x 18" (46cm x 46cm)



BRICE JAMES
Suddenly (2025)
Glazed Stoneware, Battery Operated Clock
9" x 9" (23cm x 23cm)



BRICE JAMES
Untitled Clock (2025)
Glazed Stoneware, Battery Operated Clock
10" x 8" x 2" (26cm x 21cm x 5cm)

BRICE JAMES
Untitled Clock (2026)
Glazed Stoneware, Battery Operated Clock
12" x 10" x 3" (26cm x 21cm x 5cm)

THE COME UP

MAXWELL SYKES
Titles Are Untitled (2026)
Oil on Canvas
(Artist Framed)
18" x 24" (46cm x 61cm)



MAXWELL SYKES
Titles Are Untitled (2026)
Oil on Canvas
(Artist Framed)
12" x 19" (31cm x 48cm)

THE COME UP



ASHLEY WAGNER
XOWOMO (2026)
Colored pencil on Archive Paper
14" x 11" (36cm x 28cm)
NFS / Courtesy of The Cisca Collection
Artist available for Commissions