

RYAN LEE

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Paul Henry Ramirez

Eccentric Stimuli

September 10 – October 24, 2015
Opening: Thursday, September 10, 6-8PM

RYAN LEE is pleased to present Paul Henry Ramirez's *Eccentric Stimuli*, an exhibition of paintings and drawings from his most recent body of work. *Eccentric Stimuli* builds on his signature style of bold forms and introduces a selection of new engaging figures that are bold in form and soft in palette. Works from this series were recently featured in "Beauty Reigns: A Baroque Sensibility in Recent Painting," a traveling museum show organized by the McNay Museum of Art. A new group of smaller works that are a continuation of this series is on view for the first time.

The figures initially appear to be in quiet repose, but under deeper inspection a subtle tension squeezes, presses, and caresses to initiate a transformation. In contrast to previous paintings where bright and bold colors took center stage, these newest creations have a delicate palette with subtle punctuations of bright and fluorescent colors taking on supplementary qualities.

Exclusive to this body of work are Ramirez's bold and fresh biogeomorphic abstractions, a term coined by the artist to describe his combinations of biomorphic and geometric forms that are based in figuration. Elements are pared down in order to highlight the bones of the figure. His use of color reinforces the playful manner of his work and presents a reduction of the body to its most basic shapes. He merges billowing corsets and raveling tendrils with geometric forms evolved from earlier bodies of work. Replete with swollen silhouettes, chromatic paint pours, and delicate lines, his compositions are simultaneously unpredictable and composed, organic and meticulous.

Eccentric Stimuli made its first appearance as a site-specific installation at the McNay Museum of Art and was reconfigured for the Akron Art Museum in Ohio.

Paul Henry Ramirez (b. 1963, El Paso, Texas) is currently included in the museum traveling show "Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art" organized by the Smithsonian Institute of Art. His work has been included in important shows at the Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield; Contemporary Arts Center Cincinnati; Corcoran Gallery, Washington, DC; McNay Art Museum, San Antonio; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; and Whitney Museum, New York, among others. His works are included in the permanent collections of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; and Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, among others. Ramirez will present a major solo site-specific exhibition, RATTLE, commissioned by the Grounds For Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ 2016-2017.

Concurrently on view is **Mendi + Keith Obadike: Numbers Station [Furtive Movements]**. Forthcoming exhibitions include **Sandy Skoglund** and **Kakyoung Lee**, both on view October 29-December 23, 2015.

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