

HVW8 GALLERY – PUBLIC ACCESS

With Laura Watters, Adam Tullie, Angela Nguyen, Nikkolos Mohammed, Senay Kenfe, Jerry Hsu, and Alex Cassaniti.

Private Opening: Friday August 28th, from 8 - 10pm PST (Livestreaming artist interviews and music on HVW8.com). Exhibition Runs: August 29th – November 1st, 2020 by appointment only.

"When liberty destroys order the hunger for order destroys liberty." - Will Durant

HVW8 Gallery presents *Public Access*, an exhibition made for and influenced by the COVID era. Combining elements of fine art, music and technology, the exhibition can be accessed online via ARTV (Artist Run TV), a platform for Los Angeles based artists and activists to exhibit, engage and educate a global online community. Broadcasting live from HVW8 Gallery in Hollywood, the exhibition will be accessible virtually along with intimate music performances, artist interviews, educational discussions and film screenings throughout the run of *Public Access*. The exhibition and programming will highlight and support vital organizations and urgent issues such as police reform and systemic inequities in education to criminal justice. ARTV is a community broadcasting platform generating content and funding for and by artists, local community leaders, and grass roots organizations.

Public Access features artists Laura Watters, Adam Tullie, Angela Nguyen, Nikkolos Mohammed, Senay Kenfe, Jerry Hsu and Alex Cassaniti with curation by Mattea Perrotta, Alberto Cuadros and Tyler Gibney.

Exhibited artwork will be available online for purchase on HVW8.com. A portion of all sales will be donated to partner organizations.

"It is just such deterioration of the mind, let us not forget, which leads to that mentality of which the police state consists....the artist must once again become conscious of the responsibility which he bears...The work of art was and should again be the holy oracle to which we make our pilgrimages in search of truth...The artist, where he is sincere, is indeed the truest of all judges in the problems of daily life." *-The Pushovers: Art and Anarchy*, Huntington Hartford

To view by appointment or for other inquiries, please email <u>info@hvw8.com</u> To view exhibition on Artsy: <u>HVW8 Art + Design Gallery</u>

Artist Biographies

Laura Watters

Laura Watters is a multidisciplinary artist living and working in Los Angeles. Her practice questions ideas of identity, femininity, sex, fear, mental health, and trauma. By pulling imagery from popular culture to address personal feelings and experiences she acknowledges these subjects also pervade through the collective psyche and shared reality of past and present. She also wants you to vote :)

Adam Tullie

Recent works blur the line between high & low cultural reference points, exploring topical themes using a mark-making vocabulary that melds loose, yet controlled calligraphic hand-work with pointillist repetition, creating stylized figures and compositions. He has been equally active and immersed in Los Angeles graffiti for years.

Adam was recently invited by Dries Van Noten to paint a mural in their forthcoming LA flagship launching Fall 2020. Adam created the artwork for the upcoming Josiah Steinbrick LP release, 'Liquid/Devotion & Tongue Street Blue'. A collaborative book of drawings between Adam & Devendra Banhart was published by Anteism Books in 2015 entitled, 'Unburdened By Meaning'.

Tullie has been covered in publications including Dazed, Vogue, Autre, Beautiful/Decay, and Purple Magazine Adam has exhibited at galleries internationally including Half Gallery NYC, The Hole NYC, Deitch Projects, Gallery Common Tokyo, Steinsland Berliner Stockholm, Starkwhite New Zealand, Patricia Armocida Milan among others.

Angela Nguyen

Born and raised in the 562, Angela Anh Nguyen is a self-taught rug maker, centralizing handmade tufting techniques into self-expression. Angela gathers inspiration for her work from the brunt of a working class struggle and its anti-establishment sentiments.

Nikkolos Mohammed

Nikkolos Mohammed (b. 1991, Los Angeles) is an artist working and living in Los Angeles. Since childhood, he was introduced to the art of collections through thrifting by his father. He has collections that range from prints to shoes, to sports jerseys and even tuxedo shirts from the seventies. Another facet of collecting was "people gazing" and learning how to observe identities through body language and clothing as a symbol of ideals. He could not have seen value in his collections without studying their history and how people shared them in everyday life. Over time, he realized that some of his collections were also immaterial such as ideas and memories, which

inspired his approach to art. This developed his process of creating hybrid identities through hybrid forms.

Senay Kenfe

Senay Kenfe is a photographer, musician, writer and community organizer native to Long Beach, California. Over the last 15 years he's collaborated with artists around the world as a member of local hip hop act The Natives, as well as worked on projects from documenting the graffiti scene in Brazil and Egypt to leading clean water filtration projects in Ethiopia.

Jerry Hsu

Jerry Hsu (b. 1981) is a Taiwanese-American skateboarder, photographer and currently owner of clothing company "Sci-Fi Fantasy".

Alex Cassaniti

Drawing from her upbringing on the beaches of Hawaii and Southern California and her years of experience as a designer and production coordinator in New York and Los Angeles, Cassaniti channels endless summer into the ever-evolving range of clothing, handbags, accessories, and sporting goods.

HVW8 Gallery

HVW8 Gallery was founded in Los Angeles by Tyler Gibney and Addison Liu with a focus on furthering artistic visions at the intersection of art, music and design. HVW8 Gallery has been a staple of the underground LA art scene since 2006 and home to a number of now infamous live performances. Past artists and exhibits include Parra, Geoff McFetridge, Chi Modu, Hassan Rahim, Brian Roettinger, Mark Gonzales, Shaniqwa Jarvis, Kilo Kish to name a few. Musical performances include Snoop Dogg, the Voidz, RZA, YG, Nipsey Hussle, Kali Uchis, Dam-Funk, Liv.e and countless others. ARTV continues this legacy of bringing the soul of LA and beyond.



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ARTV EPISODE 2 LIVESTREAM with NIKKOLOS MOHAMMED Friday September 18th from 8 - 10pm PST on HVW8.com (Private event not open to public.)

Programming for the *Public Access* exhibition continues with livestream Episode 2 of ARTV, featuring a night with artist Nikkolos Mohammed and exploration of the hidden social ideas of sport and its relationship to politics and religion. Delving into topics such as the juxtaposition of sport uniforms to religious attire and sport teams to socialist beliefs, Mohammed is accompanied by Burning Benjamins and Lowkey Hope to create an experience around the concept of "Artist as Athlete". Visual and sound installations are used to help viewers explore breaking the division of Artist and Athlete. Episode 2 also includes a Q&A with Roy Rollins, animation from Electric Circus, DJ set by DeadBrains, and a music performance by Snowsa.

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Burning Benjamin's identity can transform expectation in environments of dim light and high energy. The narrative imagined were the yin and yang of access and excess of money. Undoubtedly referencing to institutions of belief and the critique on socio-ethnic identity beyond its origins. These superheroes transformative audio journey will challenge your palette and make you move as well. Just as conceptual/ uncomforatble/ and fun as this description. Burn Forever.

Lowkey Hope is a Los Angeles-based photographer and film maker. His visuals represent a combination between the busy landscapes of city culture, theatrical special effects, and audio interpretation. Hope's way of storytelling tastefully emphasizes colors, movements, and sounds in order to develop a narrative that follows you through environment and emotion.