

WE OUTSIDE WIDDIT

Tyler Deauvea

Exhibition Dates: May 26 - July 22, 2023

Opening Reception: 6-8 PM Friday, May 26, 2023

Artist Talks: 2-4 PM Saturday, May 27, 2023

Sculpture Garden



Tyler Deauvea, *WE OUTSIDE WIDDIT*, 2023, wood and canvas collage
Image courtesy of the artist

April 27, 2023. Houston, TX - Art League Houston (ALH) is pleased to present *WE OUTSIDE WIDDIT*, a sculptural installation by Tyler Deauvea, a multimedia artist who explores the personal journey of a human in the role of a "Black Man in America" through his work. *WE OUTSIDE WIDDIT*, features imagery seen throughout his practice and delves into themes of individual growth and development, drawing from his own physical, mental, and spiritual experiences. Through his art, Deauvea conveys his struggles with faith, loneliness, emotional maturity, and existentialism, creating a visual language that is both poignant and relatable.

Although Deauvea does not directly address social issues in America, his work carries a profound political statement that speaks to the lived experiences of marginalized communities. Inspired by the "Otaku" subculture of Japan, Deauvea's characters "ZOE" and "ZOEY" serve as a conduit for his stories, inviting viewers to see themselves in the scenes he portrays. His artistic style, which he describes as "AFROPOP," infuses his work with vibrant colors and bold lines, reflecting the energy and spirit of his creations.

For Deauvea, the act of creating is a meditative process that allows him to release himself in each moment, giving life to his personal narrative and inviting others to find meaning and resonance in their own journeys.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Tyler Deauvea is a multimedia artist based in Houston, TX. He is self-taught, and his artistic journey began with photography and film during his time at Lamar High School. As a broadcast journalism

student at Texas Southern University, Tyler honed his craft using Houston's nightlife as a source of inspiration. He later transitioned to digital collage while interning at Instrument, a digital marketing company in Portland, Oregon, in 2015.

Within the same year, Tyler's artwork was featured on the album cover for Iman Omari's project "High & Higher Loops," which was released by Fresh Selects, a local Portland record company. However, in the three years leading up to his first formal showing, Tyler struggled to package his work in a way that was easily digestible for casual audiences.

In the spring of 2018, he began to create a body of work that gave birth to ZOE and ZOEY, the characterized mainstay of his work going forward. Tyler was formally introduced to the art world by way of a chance meeting with Robert Hodge at the 2019 show "Collect It For The Culture II," where he exhibited alongside established artists such as Mark Flood, Floyd Newsum, and Jesse Lott. Later that year, he also exhibited at the David Shelton Gallery alongside younger artists like Alexis Pye, Brandon Thompson, and Kate Mulholland in the show "Everything's Gonna Be Alright Now."

In 2020, Tyler was the Artist in Residence on BET's Instagram page, where his work was showcased, and his artistic practice was detailed over the course of a week. He also collaborated with Premium Goods for an installation for his basketball project "FOR THE LUV OF THE GAME," which paid homage to the passing of Kobe Bryant and the childhood heroes of his youth. This body of work granted him a feature on SlamOnline.com, a prominent basketball website. Additionally, Tyler participated in the MFAH's first-ever virtual "Art Encounters" series.

Later that year, he began to work in textile.

In November of 2021, Tyler's unique canvas collaged works, along with some of his later digital works, were showcased in a show with Glass Rice Gallery in San Francisco. The exhibition also featured a visual film piece entitled "BROKE BOYS GET FIXED," which shared the same name as the show.

Most recently, Tyler spent a few months in the Houston-based P.A.C. residency during the first quarter of 2023. While there, he extended his artistic practice even further to include animation cel drawings.

<https://tylerdeauvea.com/>

Instagram: @tylerdeauvea

For more information, visit www.artleaguehouston.org, or contact Zhaira Costiniano, Exhibitions and Curatorial Projects Manager, at zhaira@artleaguehouston.org or 713-523-9530.

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