



skrl art prjct @ Brooklyn Oenology Winery Tasting Room 209 Wythe Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211 (718) 599-1259

Opening Reception: Thursday, July 30, 6-9pm Exhibition Dates: July 23 - September 8, 2015

Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 2pm to 10pm, Saturday and Sunday, 12pm to 10pm

LAYERS Hiromitsu Kuroo & Michael Miller

skrl art prjct is pleased to present "Layers", our third pop-up group exhibition, featuring work by Hiromitsu Kuroo and Michael Miller, at Brooklyn Oenology Winery Tasting Room, 209 Wythe Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211, from July 23rd to September 8th, 2015. The opening reception is on Thursday, July 30th, 6 to 9pm.

"Layers" brings together two abstract painters who express their vision by using multiple strata of paint in their work to create both visual and metaphorical depth. In Miller's work, the suggestion of hidden or buried layers is a reference to history and memory informed by his experience of growing up in a declining shipbuilding city in Scotland. For Kuroo, a Japanese expatriate in New York wrestling with his cultural identity, the incorporation of layers represents his attempt to come to terms with these two very different worlds through his work.

Hiromitsu Kuroo, a Brooklyn-based artist, was born and grew up in Japan. Kuroo is a collage painter working in the tradition of origami (the art of folding paper). In his case, the canvas serves as the paper, and the gentle manipulation of its surface is how he conveys intricate textural landscapes. The multiple layers of colors in his folded canvases are revealed by sanding the canvas surface. Interested in the juxtaposition and vitality of collaged pieces of canvas, he uses them to accentuate other emerging shapes in his compositions. Kuroo has exhibited at the Uneo Royal Museum, Tokyo (1999), the Ishibashi Museum of Art, Fukuoka (2000), and the Kouriyama Museum Fukushima (2000). In the United States, he has had solo shows at The Bronx Community college, NY (2006), Gloria Kennedy Gallery, NY (2007, 2008 and 2009), Graphite, NY (2011), Tenri Gallery, NY (2012), 1133 Lobby Gallery (2014) and MIKIMOTO NY (2014). He was awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant in 2010. Hiromitsu Kuroo's works are held in the permanent collections of Miyagi National School of Technology, Tohuku University of Art and Design, and the City of Yamagata, Japan.

Michael Miller's current work draws on disruptive camouflage patterns applied to transatlantic shipping during the first half of the 20th century. This camouflage, known as "dazzle", was not intended to hide the ships to which it was applied, but rather, through the use of dramatic geometric patterning, to disrupt and distort a vessel's form, thus presenting a visual puzzle. Miller employs layers to emphasize this constant process of revelation and concealment. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Miller trained in academic drawing at the Liceo Artistico Leon Battista Alberti in Florence, Italy, and subsequently in oil painting with the Laborarte Group in the same city. In 2006, he moved to Maputo, Mozambique, where he was heavily influenced by traditional designs, the work of local artists and, more generally, by the art and religious objects of Sub-Saharan Africa. While in Mozambique he also began to collect and experiment with natural pigments. On moving to New York in 2010, Miller studied abstract painting, drawing and assemblage at the The Art Students League. In May 2012, he was awarded the League's Henri Matisse Estate Merit Scholarship. In 2014 he was selected as a visiting artist at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Michael has studied at the universities of Edinburgh, Leicester and Pennsylvania and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He has a doctorate in history and civilization from the European University Institute in Florence.

Brooklyn Oenology Winery (pron. 'EN-ology', or simply 'BOE'), <u>brooklynoenology.com</u> is a locally focused winery based in Williamsburg, Brooklyn founded in 2006 by winemaker Alie Shaper. BOE works to bridge the creative culinary, agricultural and art worlds by crafting award-winning regional wines from NY State grapes, and by displaying the work of New York City artists on their bottle labels.

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