

PRESS RELEASE

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Gitler & _____

Presents Boy Kong: *Artificial Lily*

September 9 – October 11, 2017
Opening: Saturday, September 9, 6-9 PM

(August 25, 2017) Gitler & _____ is pleased to announce the gallery's latest solo show from Boy Kong, entitled *Artificial Lily*. The exhibition will comprise a selection of new wall-mounted and freestanding sculptures. In the artist's words, "I've applied louder colors to normal subjects, but always with a twist, a weird factor that renders each one slightly off." *Artificial Lily* will run through October 11, 2017.



*What's the Talking Without the..., 2017, Spray
Paint, Acrylic on Wood, 17.5 x 23.5 x 1.5 in.*

In this latest body of work, Kong further explores and experiments with his own distinct approach to cubist portraiture, depicting figures composed of fluid anatomy and radioactive color, intertwining within themselves as limbs and related extremities naturally give way to other forms. Kong casts his subjects to stand at attention; flat figures in three-dimensional space. And yet, the artist takes great care in balancing the surreal and the purely representational – here stand natural forms in an unnatural state.

Many subjects in *Artificial Lily* are borderless paintings that reside in a sculptural realm. At their most elemental, Kong's subjects would stand up to physiological scrutiny, and yet, the anatomical pieces and forms that make up the whole figure reveal the artist's love for dissection. Amidst the acid-tone colors and playful posturing, Kong's love for cubism and Pop art, and his mastery of calligraphic line work have yielded arrested figures, wherein exposed muscle and vertebrae reside on the surface, or subtly reveal themselves through the skin.

Such dissection is a revelation; while postured in idyllic ways that are pleasing to the eye, each figure's strengths and vulnerabilities are depicted side by side. Beyond the surface, each of Kong's characters bears a certain intensity and balance, bordering on intimidating. At the same time, Kong reveals his subjects' vulnerabilities by placing them atop decorative pedestals, mounting them on the wall, or casting them in colors that stand in defiance of nature.

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Gitler & _____ is located at 3629 Broadway in Hamilton Heights, NYC. The gallery is dedicated to showcasing rising artists from around the world. For more info visit www.gitlerand.com.

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