

THE SCHOOL | JACKSHAINMANGALLERY

THE COFFINS OF PAA JOE AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

524 West 24th Street | June 8 – August 25, 2017

The School, 25 Broad Street, Kinderhook, NY | June 24th through Fall, 2017

Jack Shainman Gallery is pleased to announce ***The Coffins of Paa Joe and the Pursuit of Happiness***, two interrelated shows at the gallery's Chelsea location and The School located in Kinderhook, NY. This large-scale exhibition explores art as a means of transcendence, and the persistent, universal drive to explain the complexities of existence through creation.

Throughout history, art has reflected the human quest to understand the self, purpose, and the relationship to the world in which we live. Across all cultures and religions, from pre-language communities to contemporary society, mankind has sought answers to questions of mortality and divinity, sensing a higher realm beyond our perishable and finite lives. This wide-ranging exhibition brings together works and objects from across historical periods, cultures, and geographies, presenting art as a means for pursuing these existential mysteries.

Serving as the centerpiece for this exhibition, The Gold Coast slave castles of Paa Joe, commissioned by the gallery's late co-founder, Claude Simard, generate a conversation surrounding the duality of the mundane world, and the ensuing voyage into the afterlife. Fashioned in the spirit of Ghanaian fantasy coffins, they form a bridge between the material world and possibilities beyond impermanence. This transcendental shift from the tangible to the metaphysical is the point of convergence for the works included in this exhibition. From the earliest artifacts on display, Iron Age terracotta Nok sculpture, to contemporary works by Nina Chanel Abney, David Altmejd, Kerry James Marshall, and Lynette Yiadom-Boakye, the artists address their distinct notions of art as celebration, as a vehicle for personal salvation, or more broadly, creating beauty out of – or despite – one's surroundings.

Juxtapositions of seemingly disparate works, such as the religiously inspired 17th century oil paintings of Francisco Pacheco with the Fauvist works of Jacques Villon, or the anti-Nationalist drawings of George Grosz with the gregarious busts of John Ahearn, explore timeless themes that recur throughout history. From portraiture, to the motif of the Trinity, the works excavate lost narratives and express the joys of making and collecting art. This diverse collection of works and objects reflect the wide-ranging influences that guide the gallery's program.

Concurrently on view this summer through September 24, 2017, is *If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day: Collections of Claude Simard* at the Tang Museum at Skidmore College, which presents a parallel exhibition from the collection of the gallery's late co-founder. Acquired both abroad and from within the United States, the diversity of the works spans an extensive range of medium and subject matter.

The School is open on Saturdays from 11am to 6pm. For additional information and photographic material please contact the gallery at theschool@jackshainman.com.

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THE COFFINS OF PAA JOE AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

INCLUDING WORKS BY

NINA CHANEL ABNEY
JOHN AHEARN
DAVID ALTMEJD
EL ANATSUI
PHILIP KWAME APAGYA
RON ARAD
STUART ARENDS
RADCLIFFE BAILEY
MATTHEW BARNEY
TIM BAVINGTON
MAX BECKMANN
HUMA BHABHA
DANIEL BUREN
EUGENIO CAJÉS
YOAN CAPOTE
CARLO CARRÀ
WILLIAM CARROLL
NICK CAVE
SAINT CLAIR CEMIN
GEOFFREY CHADSEY
CHHOTU
JUAN SÁNCHEZ COTÁN
J.H. COY
WILLEM DE KOONING
DIEGO DE LA CRUZ
SEBASTIÁN DE LLANOS Y
VALDÉS
CRISTÓBAL DE MORALES
RODRIGO DE VILLANDRANDO
CIRCLE OF FRANCISCO DE
ZURBARÁN
GEORGE DE BORUM
BEAUFORD DELANEY
ANDRÉ DERAIN
JIMMY DESANA
LIZ DESCHENES
PIERRE DORION
MOIRA DRYER
MAX ERNST
WALKER EVANS
PATERSON EWEN
BOB FAUST
JOEL FISHER
BEVERLY FISHMAN
SAMUEL FOSSO
AARON FOWLER
TILL FREIWALD

TOM FRIEDMAN
PAUL GAUGUIN
JEAN-PIERRE GAUTHIER
NAN GOLDIN
GEORGE GROSZ
ALAN GUTIERREZ
CHRISTOPHER HANRAHAN
BARKLEY L. HENDRICKS
ARTURO HERRERA
DAVID HOCKNEY
ZHANG HUAN
ALFREDO JAAR
PAA JOE
HAYV KAHRAMAN
ANTON KANNEMEYER
TITUS KAPHAR
JEREMY JOHN KAPLAN
MARGARET KILGALLEN
JACK N. KRAMER
LYNE LAPOINTE & MARTHA
FLEMING
CHARLES LEDRAY
SHERRIE LEVINE
MICAH LEXIER
DEBORAH LUSTER
KERRY JAMES MARSHALL
ROBERTO MATTA
ENRIQUE MARTÍNEZ CELAYA
SIBUSISO MBHELE
MCDERMOTT AND MCGOUGH
BARRY MCGEE
ANNETTE MESSENGER
GEORGE MEYERRIECKS
JOHN MORRA
RICHARD MOSSE
ADI NES
JACKIE NICKERSON
TOYIN OJIH ODUTOLA
ALFONSO OSSORIO
FRANCISCO PACHECO
RICHARD PHILLIPS
FRANCIS PICABIA
JACK PIERSON
MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO
MAN RAY
AD REINHARDT
DEBORAH REMINGTON

MILTON RESNICK
STERLING RUBY
ROSS RUDEL
ED RUSCHA
COLLIER SCHORR
CLAUDETTE SCHREUDERS
PAUL MPAGI SEPUYA
ANDRES SERRANO
MALICK SIDIBÉ
CLAUDE SIMARD
AARON SISKIND
PAUL ANTHONY SMITH
ROBERT SMITHSON
JUAN RUIZ SORIANO
Y.G. SRIMATI
DAMIAN STAMER
LINDA STARK
BECKY SUSS
MARK DI SUVERO
PHILIP TAAFFE
STEED TAYLOR
ROBERT THERRIEN
MICKALENE THOMAS
GEORGE TICE
WOLFGANG TILLMANS
CLAUDE TOUSIGNANT
VICTOR VASARELY
CARLOS VEGA
CIRCLE OF DIEGO VELÁZQUEZ
SIEBREN VERSTEEG
ARTHUR VILLENEUVE
JACQUES VILLON
ANDY WARHOL
CARRIE MAE WEEMS
HANK WILLIS THOMAS
LYNETTE YIADOM-BOAKYE
NAHUM B. ZENIL

AND OTHERS