

Brian Alfred
NEW WORLD



Street Lights, 2021, 152.4 x 127 cm, Acrylic on canvas
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MAHO KUBOTA GALLERY is proud to present NEW WORLD, a solo exhibition by New York-based artist Brian Alfred, opening on October 21, 2021.

Alfred's title for this exhibition, NEW WORLD, is deeply symbolic. The twenty-eight paintings and collages exhibited, plus an animation, are all new pieces created during the pandemic. Among them, the relatively small works and the animation were produced at the artist's home while he was isolating there as the COVID-19 pandemic began to sweep across the globe. As we gradually adapted to life under a new set of rules, he moved his base of operations from his home back to his studio, where he created the large canvas paintings.

Alfred's practice involves portraying issues and crises befalling our world and the realities of our society, using contemporary, poetic means of expression. Compared to previous series, the paintings produced during this time have a more personal and realistic feel, seeming to convey the wavering emotions that the artist experienced during the process of creation. Among these works is the particularly striking 152 x 127 cm painting entitled Street Lights, which depicts a scene in which a red traffic light conveys the strong message "STOP" to no one in particular in the middle of a major city boulevard absent of people. It symbolizes the situation we are in, in which we have been forced to suddenly stop, despite seeing the world continue on its course in the distance. In addition to this scene of a city that now simply exists where it is, bereft of activity, there are paintings depicting a yearning for waves on the seashore, flowers in meadows, and memories of travels, conveying a sense of powerlessness but also finding hope in the robustness of nature, which proceeds undaunted, continuing to change during a time when human activity has stopped.

The artist comments on these works saying, "I think the images that I made during this time, and for this show, reflect this altered experience of reality. It was the first steps of making art in what I see as a New World." All the works exhibited demonstrate the artist's first steps in an attempt to emerge from the pandemic, indicating a path that leads beyond an uncertain tomorrow to the better future that we crave.

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October 21 -November 20, 2021, 12-7pm

Closed on SUN, MON and National Holidays

Maho Kubota Gallery

2-4-7 Jingumae Shibuya-ku Tokyo Japan, tel +81 (0)3-6434-7716

<https://www.mahokubota.com/en/>

Brian Alfred

Brian Alfred was born in Pittsburgh, PA in 1974. His work is imbued with the world around us. From issues of conflict and unrest to the beauty of the landscape and everything in between, Alfred is interested in who we are as a people by way of or surroundings and environment. He works through a variety of media from painting to collage to animation to present images of our world. His work resonates with American artists such as Hopper and Sheeler and also has an affinity with Ukiyo-e and popular culture. His work has been shown in galleries and museums worldwide and his animations have been played in film festivals and screenings across the globe.



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Butterfly, 2021, 56x43.5cm, Acrylic on canvas
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Yoshi & Sumi, 2021, 56 × 43.5cm, Acrylic on canvas
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Brian Alfred New Mural launch @ Little Darling Coffee Roasters, Minami Aoyama, Tokyo

Along with the opening of his show at the gallery on 21 October, a newly painted mural will appear at Little Darling Coffee Roasters, Minami Aoyama, Tokyo

site : Little Darling Coffee Roasters at SHARE GREEN Minami Aoyama
1-12-32 Minami Aoyama, Minatoku, Tokyo

