

# off the wall gallery

paintings • sculpture • original prints



## CRAIG ALAN *Painting*

Craig Alan was born in 1971 in San Bernardino, California. Though always drawn to art, Alan's creativity did not fully develop until his family transferred to New Orleans while he was a child. The vivacious culture nurtured Alan's capacity for detailed visual interpretation. Inspired by the city's enthusiasm for creative expression he began exploring his own innovative impulses.

Alan's earliest experimentation took the form of street portraiture, an endeavor that helped him perfect his flair for replicating the human figure and afforded the budding artist a sense of economic security. He saved his portrait earnings to pay for school and art supplies. Though he always planned to pursue a formal art education, Alan continued to develop technically and conceptually through his own diligent studies.

During his sophomore year at the University of Mobile, Alabama, Alan undertook vigorous training in art. His enthusiasm for his studies immediately propelled him into the scholastic limelight. With a focus on studio arts, Alan earned an area award for academic excellence. The University's most prestigious exhibition, "Art with a Southern Drawl," featured 42 of Alan's pieces, chosen from a field of more than 1,600 submissions.

A minor concentration in theater further diversified Alan's craft, imbuing him with additional techniques in makeup and set design. This blending of disparate influences and media is visually apparent in all of Alan's works, which demonstrate a broad knowledge and appreciation of the human form as well as the colorful world these beings occupy. Combining his skills into elaborate textures, hues, and compositions, Alan's artwork reveals a technical sophistication as well as an elaborate imagination. Alan's collections run the gamut from abstract expressionism to haunting, graphic realism, each one a reflection of its creator's unique vision. His prolific career is a culmination of textbook artistic knowledge and keen aesthetic sense, one developed not through intensive schooling but deep within recesses of this artist's brilliant mind.

Craig Alan continues to exhibit his artwork across the United States, where he has established himself as a singular voice in the visual arts industry.

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### ARTIST STATEMENT

For Alan, the canvas is a backdrop for the unexpected. It is raw reality filtered through his conscious, deepened to his subconscious, and reconstructed in a way that elevates the common to the uncommon. There is nothing clichéd about his authentically original style.

*"I was at my mom's condo, taking pictures of people on the beach from her balcony. She's on the sixth floor. It was a nice day, a bunch of people were on the beach. One of the shots I took through the camera's eye ended up looking like an eyeball. I kept studying the picture, and I kept coming back to that photograph, saying, there has got to be some way I can translate this in my own way. And it was probably a year and a half later that through studying materials, I was able to create a method that I could use to come up with The POPULUS."*

- Craig Alan

### SHOWS

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|------|--|------|---|
| 2018 | Texas Contemporary<br>Market Art & Design<br>Art New York<br>Affordable Art Fair NYC<br>Art Boca Raton<br>Palm Beach Modern + Contemporary | 2015 | CONTEXT Miami<br>Art Silicon Valley<br>Hampton Classic<br>Art Hamptons<br>Art Palm Beach<br>LA Art Show |
| 2017 | CONTEXT Miami<br>SCOPE Basel Switzerland<br>CONTEXT New York<br>CONTEXT Palm Beach   | 2014 | SCOPE Miami<br>Houston Fine Art Fair<br>Art Baltimore<br>Art Hamptons                                   |
| 2016 | CONTEXT Miami<br>CUBE Brussels<br>SCOPE Basel Switzerland<br>CONTEXT New York  |      |   |