

P. SETH THOMPSON

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b. 1979, lives and works in Atlanta, GA

ARTIST STATEMENT

On the morning of January 28, 1986, I sat with my first-grade teacher and fellow classmates in our school cafeteria, watching on live television the launch and subsequent disaster of the Challenger Shuttle. Before this moment, mass media did not directly influence my perception of reality: monsters, superheroes, cartoons, and the news were not real. Beaming from the same source, the realization that six astronauts and one teacher were dead sunk into my awareness. Images became real and reality seemed an illusion.

Using the visual language of cinema and television as the entry point, and digitally reconstructing the collective imagination, my work emphasizes the elusive boundary between the real and the virtual. As a result, the formal elements within the images act as a vehicle to examine the theoretical concepts of film, quantum physics, spirituality, and mechanical reproduction's "aura."

The desire to deconstruct the image began with my incomprehensible absorption of an edited, televised moment. Photography's mimetic properties continue to evade the viewer with the false notion of "that which has been" and, in effect, acts as the tangible placeholder of our memories. The past, present, and future all converge into one moment, and all perceptions fade away into pure abstraction.

BIOGRAPHY

P. Seth Thompson received a BA in film and video from Georgia State University in 2005 and a MFA in photography from SCAD-Atlanta in 2012. From 2011-2013, He worked as curatorial assistant in the department of modern and contemporary art at the High Museum of Art. During this time, he assisted on a wide range of group and solo exhibitions including *Picasso to Warhol*, *KAWS: DOWN TIME*, *Rashid Johnson: Message to our Folks*, as well as curate *Kiki Smith: Rituals*.

Thompson's work has been reviewed by *Art in America*, *ArtsATL*, *The Atlantan*, *Bad at Sports*, *Burnaway*, *Creative Loafing*, *OtherPeoplesPixels Blog*, and *WABE*. In 2014, he was a finalist for both the "Artadia: The Fund for Art and Dialogue Award" and nominated for the "John Gutman Photography Fellowship Award."

He has exhibited in both solo and group shows, and is in the permanent collection of Sir Elton John, The High Museum of Art, The Fulton County Arts Council, and the Tavistock Group, LLC. He is currently represented by Sandler Hudson Gallery in Atlanta, GA.

CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION:

- 2012 Master of Fine Arts in Photography, Savannah College of Art & Design, Atlanta, GA
- 2005 Bachelor of Arts in Film and Video, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

TEACHING AND RELATED EXPERIENCE:

- 2016- Part-time Professor of Fine Arts, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2015-16 Visiting Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA
- 2014-15 Visiting Assistant Professor of New Media Arts, Kennesaw State University-Marietta Campus, Marietta, GA
- 2011-13 Curatorial Assistant, Modern & Contemporary Art Department, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2017 *Insufficient Data for Meaningful Answer*, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 *P. Seth Thompson: Good Exposure*, Arnall Golden Gregory, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 *THIS MESSAGE HAS NO CONTENT*, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 *The Last One*, Poem 88, Atlanta, GA
- 2012 *The Tannhauser Gate*, Ontologic Solutions, Atlanta, GA
- 2010 *Construction Paper*, Gallery 111, Dalton, GA
- 2005 *Stop Motion Europe*, Gallery 111, Dalton, GA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2017 *Medium*, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw, GA
Art Papers 18th Annual Art Auction, The Boiler Room, Atlanta, GA
- 2016 *Abstraction Today*, MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Atlas Restaurant, Tavistock Group, Atlanta, GA
Spectrum 2015-Live Art Auction & Gala, Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, TN
ACP 10th Annual Photography Auction, Mason Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
J1: ATHICA's first juried exhibition, ATHICA, Athens, GA
Summer Salon, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
The Fifth Annual Exposure Photography Award (digital display), The Louvre Museum, Paris, France
Portalism: new moves from the 2014/15 Walthall Artist Fellows, MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
BURNAWAY 4th Annual Art Crush Auction, Abrams Fixture Building, Atlanta, GA
Art Papers 16th Annual Art Auction, Bobo Intriguing Objects, Atlanta, GA

- 2014 *Shape of a Pocket: parallel thoughts in contemporary practice*, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
What is Seen is Not Always What is Real, Decatur Book Festival, Decatur, GA
Artfields, Lake City, SC
Art Papers 15th Annual Art Auction, Mason Murer Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 *100 at 100*, Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design, Atlanta, GA
- 2012 *Flowers for You*, Stephan Stoyanov Gallery, New York, NY
Talent Loves Company, Barbara Archer Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2011 *GroundFloor: 2011 Dashboard Exhibition #2*, Edgewood district, Atlanta, GA
Silver and Ink, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA
Nature, Undisturbed, Dogwood Gallery, Tyrone, GA
- 2010 *Silver and Ink*, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA
SCAD-Atlanta Fall Open Studios, SCAD-Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
SCAD-Atlanta Juried Photo Exhibition, Atlantic Station, Atlanta, GA
F/18, Atlantic Station, Atlanta, GA
New Works, Emerging Art Scene, Atlanta, GA
- 2009 *We Are Going to Eat You*, Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2008 *Aftermath*, Target Gallery, Alexandria, VA
The Revolution Will Not Be Televised, Altered Aesthetics, Minneapolis, MN

COMMISSIONS:

- 2017 St. Joseph's Hospital, Nashua, NH
- 2015 *Satisfaction*. USA Networks, NYC. Television
- 2014 Hawks Cay Resort & Villas, Duck Key, FL

CURATORIAL PROJECTS:

- 2017 (Forthcoming) *Racecar*, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw, GA
- 2016 *Short Shorts: The Jump Cut*, Whitespace Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2012 *Alejandro Aguilera: About the Modern Spirit*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2011-12 *Kiki Smith: Rituals*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

CURATORIAL ASSISTANT PROJECTS:

- 2013 *Monster Drawing Rally*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Drawing Inside the Perimeter, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Drawing Instruments: Al Taylor's 'Bat Part's' and 'Endcuts', High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2012 *Rashid Johnson: Message To Our Folks*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

- KAWS: DOWN TIME*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Aaron Curry: Wrong Spelled Wrong, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Trading Places, Part 1: Selected Works from the Collection of MOCA GA, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2011-12 *Sarah Sze: Book of Parts (Centennial)*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Aaron Curry: Boo, Deadhead, & Thing, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Katharina Grosse, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Fast Forward: Modern Moments 1913 >> 2013, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Susan Cofer: Draw Near, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Picasso to Warhol, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2011 *Radcliffe Bailey: Memory as Medicine*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA

SPEAKING APPEARANCES:

- 2017 Artist Talk, *Insufficient Data for an Image*, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Roundtable Discussion, *All Those Moments*, MOCA GA, Atlanta, GA
- 2014 Artist Talk, *THIS CONVERSATION HAS NO CONTENT: A conversation with P. Seth Thompson and Michael Rooks*, Wieland Family Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, High Museum of Atlanta, GA, Sandler Hudson Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 Artist Talk, SCAD-Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
 Artist Talk, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 Artist Talk, *The Last One*, Poem 88 Gallery, Atlanta, GA
 Artist Talk, The University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
 Artist Talk, Southern Polytechnic State University, Atlanta, GA

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- 2017 Nathan Sharratt, "Glitch-By-Number: Insufficient Data For Conversation," *Burnaway*, April 28, 2017
 Jeremy Abernathy, "'Insufficient Data for an Image' — P. Seth Thompson at Sandler Hudson Gallery," *Burnaway*, April 14, 2017
- 2016 Nicola Breslauer, "Short Shorts 2016: An Interview with P. Seth Thompson," *Oz Magazine*, August 16, 2016
 Donna Mintz, "Forms of Abstraction at MOCA GA," *BURNAWAY*
- 2015 Kimberly Binns, "Crush Cribs: P. Seth Thompson," *BURNAWAY* (video), Atlanta, GA
- 2014 Floyd Hall, "WonderRoot Podcast: P. Seth Thompson," *BURNAWAY Radio* (podcast), November 26, 2014.
Creative Loafing, Cover, vol. 43, no. 28, November 2014

Muriel Vega, "Art-Techstic Speech: How Technology Informs and Inspires 3 ATL Artists," Creative Loafing, vol. 43, no. 28, November 2014. 35

Faith McClure, "P. Seth Thompson indulges in and questions our hyperdigitized reality, at Sandler Hudson," ArtsATL, October 8, 2014. Dan Weiskopf, "Through Alien Eyes: P. Seth Thompson at Sandler Hudson", BURNAWAY, September 25, 2014.

Dr. Jerry Cullum, "Shape of a Pocket smart, engaging but also frustrating, at Sandler Hudson", ArtsATL, September 2, 2014.

Stephanie Dowda, "The Power of Two in The Shape of a Pocket at Sandler Hudson,"

BURNAWAY, August 12, 2014.

Stacia Yeapanis, "OtherPeoplesPixels interviews P. Seth Thompson," OtherPeoplesPixels (blog), July 24, 2014.

Cinque Hicks, "P. Seth Thompson at Poem 88", Art in America, March 2014. 158

2013 Meredith Kooi, "Cosmic Images and Inner Realities: P. Seth Thompson's The Last One," Bad at Sports: Contemporary Art Talk, December 26, 2013.

Kate Abney, "Ones to Watch," The Atlantian (Arts & Power Issue), December 2013. 95

Jill Frank, "Dodge & Burn: P. Seth Thompson", BURNAWAY, July 15, 2013.

2012 Kate Sweeney, "Dashboard Co-op Brings Art to Unexpected Spaces," WABE, July 26, 2012.

Winston Ward, "Thompson's Tannhäuser Gate Celebrates the Unknowable," BURNAWAY, June 6, 2012.

Debbie Michaud, "A few questions with photographer P. Seth Thompson," Creative Loafing, May 16, 2012.

2011 Joanna Bledsoe, "The Bizarre and Beautiful World of Kiki Smith," MutualArt.com, November 2, 2011.

Ann Nichols, "Festival 2011," Chattanooga Times Free Press, September 11, 2011. E10

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Atlanta Homes & Lifestyle, Atlanta Journal & Constitution, Men's Book
Atlanta, New American Paintings

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

2014-15 Walthall Artist Fellowship, Atlanta, GA

2014 Finalist, John Gutman Photography Fellowship Award, San Francisco, CA

2014 Finalist, Artadia: The Fund for Art & Dialogue, Brooklyn, NY

2012 Finalist, The 5th annual Forward Arts Foundation Emerging Artist Award, Atlanta, GA

- Phenomenal Focus Scholarship: Excellence in Photography, SCAD-Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
Dashboard Co-op Selected Artist, Atlanta, GA
3rd Place, Nature, Undisturbed, Dogwood Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2010 Best Use of Color, My Atlanta, Piedmont Park Conservancy Center, Atlanta, GA
2009 Best of Photography, FESTIVAL, Creative Arts Guild, Dalton, GA
2005 Best of Photography, FESTIVAL, Creative Arts Guild, Dalton, GA

EXHIBITION JUROR:

- 2015 *Bows ArtSS BASH*, Sandy Springs, GA
2013 *Festival*, Dalton, GA
2012 *The N.E.W. Show!*, Visual Arts Exchange, Raleigh, NC

SELECTED COLLECTIONS:

- Lucinda Bunnan, Atlanta, GA
Fulton County Arts Council, Atlanta, GA
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Jared Paul Interiors, Atlanta, GA
Scott Laslie Interior Designs, Atlanta, GA
Sir Elton John Photography Collection, Atlanta, GA
Michael Rooks, Wieland Family Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Tavistock Group, LLC, Windermere, FL

Works held in many private collections throughout the United States.