

COURT TREE COLLECTIVE

SKATE- HOMIES EXHIBITION,
BY CLARENCE K.

Court Tree Collective was founded to support artists and promote cultural exchange. How does this mission shape your curatorial approach?

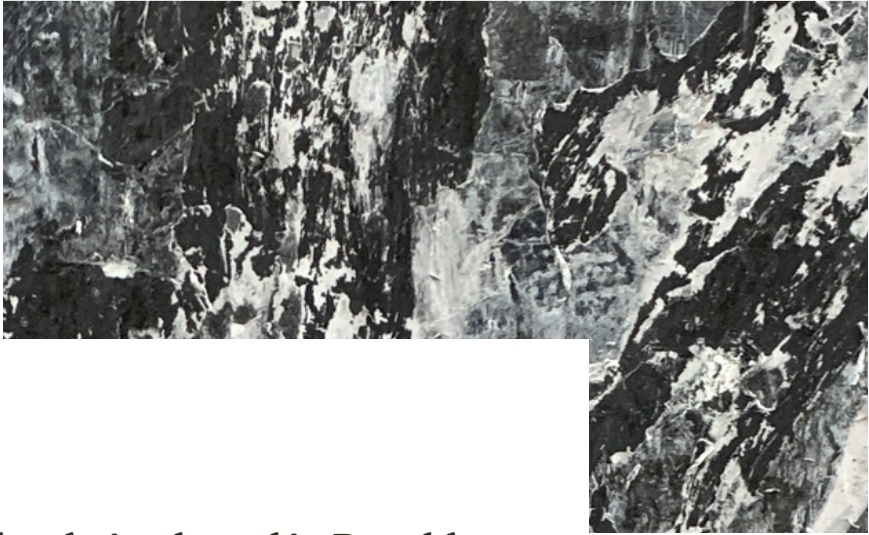
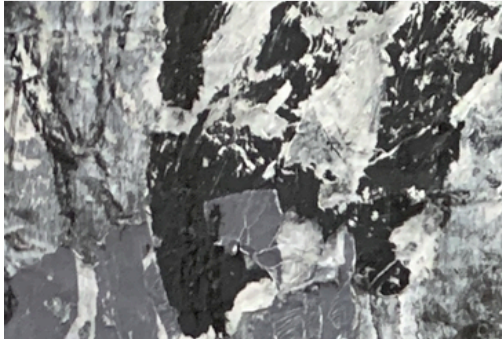
I think it's a simple answer. Both do and should always go hand and hand. For us it's more of a lifestyle and how we live day to day. So consciously it enters into our curation.

Your gallery showcases a diverse range of artists and disciplines. How do you select artists and exhibitions that align with Court Tree's vision?

Today there are so many ways to find artists, but I would be lying if I said social media was not one of the most common ways. However, after doing this for over ten years we find ourselves in a community that is interactive and connected to what we do. Sometimes the artists that we work with might recommend someone. I like this way the most because it is like keeping it in the family. With that being said, we are always looking for new artists in every way possible.







**PHOTOGRAPH
BY MASAO GOZU**



How has being based in Brooklyn influenced the gallery's identity and the types of artists you work with?

I am not sure if it influences our identity anymore than being a New Yorkers does. However, we are located in a very unique location in Brooklyn called Industry City. Which is a destination in South Brooklyn that is located on the waterfront. The weekends are filled with all walks of life including tourists from around the world. This happens to be a great way to test the thermostat on an artist's work. So if anything we do like to have a few pieces that push hard into the viewer's mind. From a Michael McGrath "Grouches Lurk" to a Louis Sarowsky hand carved marble skateboard to a Isolina Minjeong sculpture. These types of pieces definitely have become a symbol of who we are and what we are about. I'd hate to call them attraction pieces because each is incredibly talented, but to the average person they want to see more of it. It's been super fun for us to think in this way.



ALL THE SMOKE EXHIBITION,
BY PJ CAMBE



Court Tree Collective also hosts workshops and events. How do these programs enhance the gallery experience for both artists and the community?

In recent years we have paused the workshops, but we do have monthly openings for our exhibitions. People don't realize how much work goes into a workshop and the consistency they need to become successful. It used to be what we were known for, but our efforts seem better suited for a great opening reception. We always have incredible food from around the world at all of our openings. From Hong Kong style side dishes to Jamaican style wings. Our old gallery had a full kitchen and we did weekly food pop ups. So we have kept this tradition going. Sharing home cooked foods builds community.

**PHOTOGRAPHS
BY MASAO GOZU**





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What advice would you give to emerging artists looking to exhibit their work at an artist-run space like Court Tree Collective?

I tell every emerging artist this exact thing. Start by hanging out at the gallery you like the most, come to the openings. Be active on their social media and emails. Make yourself a regular fixture before showing your work. Most importantly find a gallery that you think your work might fit in. So often we get submissions where the work is so vastly different from what we exhibit. Never show your work to a gallery on your phone or at an art opening.



UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

ISOLINA MINJEOG'S OPENS ON MAY 3RD.

"Ghosts in the Garden" by husband and wife Katy Martin and Bill Brand opens on June 7th. In addition the year will round out with solo shows by C.H.U.M., Theo Bardsley, Jacob Gerard, JIEM and Mary Limondae (duo exhibition).

Can you share a particularly memorable exhibition or collaboration that has left a lasting impact on the gallery?

We have been so blessed to work with so many incredible artists. So it is really hard to choose, but the top 3 most rewarding exhibitions were the Masao Gozu "Windows to New York" exhibitions. The local hero of Brooklyn graffiti KAVES "Concrete Cathedrals" exhibition. Finally our permanent installation of Bill Brand's "Masstransiscope" prints has become a destination for patrons in our community. The original 1980n subway animation is on the same train line that our gallery is on. So they work really well together. We love hearing people's experiences and love for them.