

MATTEAWAN GALLERY

Thomas Huber

Merge

September 12 – October 4, 2015

Opening reception Saturday, September 12, 6-9 pm

Matteawan Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of paintings and collages by Thomas Huber. This is Huber's first solo show with the gallery, and the inaugural show in the gallery's new, larger space at 436 Main Street in Beacon. The new space will be able to accommodate larger work, as well as performances and events. The first event in the new space will be an artist talk with Thomas Huber on Saturday, September 26 at 3:00 pm.

Thomas Huber's work possesses a strong sense of color, arrangement, texture, and form. His collages and paintings are composed of an array of disparate images and materials. He begins with a thickly sculpted gesso ground that becomes the background for a collage of found lists, scraps of paper with diagrams, doodles and other personal notations, images from magazines, drawings, and drips of paint. Huber creates layers that flow in and out of each other, revealing recognizable and semi-recognizable images and words. His compositions fluctuate between open spaces and dense imagery, with the open spaces giving the viewer a chance to breathe before processing the next cluster of information. In every case, the sense of movement, energy, and flow suggests that something is about to happen.

Huber's work functions somewhat like our thought process, leaping from one thing to another, imagery and memory working together at all times to interpret our surroundings. It draws viewers in slowly and demands concentration. His paintings and collages are intentionally opaque because he wants viewers to overlay their own thoughts, references, and memories. Ultimately, there is no right or wrong interpretation. Huber's work is also playful, juxtaposing image and text in surprising, sometimes funny ways that subtly engages viewers. The major themes in his work are creation, regeneration, and an awareness of the small moments in our lives, the daily beauty that often goes unnoticed in our busy world.

Thomas Huber's work has been exhibited throughout the Hudson Valley, in New York City and New England, as well as in Montreal, Canada. Recent exhibitions include *2015 Artists of the Mohawk Hudson Region*, Juried by Rachel Uffner, at the University Art Museum, University at Albany, Albany NY. In 2014 his work was the subject of a solo exhibition at Theo Ganz Studio in Beacon, NY. In recent years his work has been included in group exhibitions at Matteawan Gallery (*The UV Portfolio*); Denise Bibro Fine Art and Skylight Gallery, NYC; BAU, Beacon, NY; the Edward Hopper House, Nyack, NY; the Woodstock Artist's Association and Museum in Woodstock, NY, in which Huber was awarded Best in Show in 2011; Hudson Opera House, Hudson, NY; and Van Brunt Gallery, Beacon, NY. In 2014 Huber curated the exhibition *Salon des Refuses* at the Garrison Art Center, Garrison, NY. In 2013 he began working with artists Matt Frieburghaus and Laura Kaufman in *Decomposer*, a collaborative performance group that explores the interaction of sight and sound in space. Huber received a BFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York. He currently lives in Cold Spring, NY.

For additional information please contact Karlyn Benson at info@matteawan.com.