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Howard Sherman at McMurtrey Gallery

(<http://glasstire.com/2011/10/04/howard-sherman-at-mcmurtrey-gallery/>)

October 4th, 2011 – MELISSA GROBMYER ([HTTP://GLASSTIRE.COM/AUTHOR/MELISSA-GROBMYER/](http://glasstire.com/author/melissa-grobmyer/))

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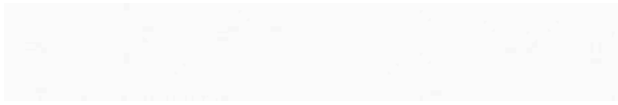
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(http://glasstire.com/2011/10/04/howard-sherman-at-mcmurtrey-gallery/005_sherman/)

Howard Sherman, "Gold plated AK," 2011, acrylic and marker on canvas, 60" x 50"

Howard Sherman (<http://www.howardsherman.com/>)'s in-your-face aesthetic and cartoon-like drawing pays homage to Keith Haring (<http://www.haring.com/>) and especially Jean-Michel Basquiat (<http://www.basquiat.com/artist.htm>), whose street-art inspired paintings ran counter to the Minimalist establishment. Their art challenged Minimalist emphasis on finish and intention in a work of art.

Sherman started his career as an editorial cartoonist, but he quickly moved into painting, earning a MFA from North Texas in 2006. Over the last several years I have been watching his work develop. (Full Disclosure, as an art advisor I have placed several of his paintings and drawings in private and corporate collections.) Howard Sherman's exhibition of new work runs through October 15th at McMurtrey Gallery.



(http://glasstire.com/2011/10/04/howard-sherman-at-mcmurtrey-gallery/003_sherman/)

Howard Sherman, "Cement Shoes," 2011, acrylic and marker on canvas, 70" x 60"

Like Basquiat, Sherman's paintings are messy and immediate and personal and pointed. They are humorously aggressive and reflect the multivalent and chaotic world we live in. In a world that increasingly requires constant editing of information overload, these paintings grab your attention like a slap in the face.

Despite his works' seeming randomness, Sherman knows where he is going, what he is doing, and what he is communicating. It is almost as though the artist turns Basquiat up a notch, producing paintings and drawings that run roughshod over good taste.



(<http://mfah.org/exhibitions/gifts-sultan-arts-giving-islamic-courts/>)

LATEST COMMENTS

Rainey Knudson on AMoA and Arthouse Merging: The Hardest Part
(<http://glasstire.com/2011/11/02/amoa-and-arthouse-merging-the-hardest-part/#comment-10143>)

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(<http://glasstire.com/2011/11/01/arthouse-and-austin-museum-rejoin-after-50-years-no-shakeup-announced-but-new-director-and-rebranding-are-on-the-horizon/#comment-10136>)

annie souza on Glasstire Drawing Project #1: Life On the List, Chapter 1
(<http://glasstire.com/2011/10/31/glasstire-drawing-project-1-life-on-the-list-chapter-1/#comment-10135>)

Marianne B. Woods on Doctor of Philosophy
(<http://glasstire.com/2011/10/12/doctor-of-philosophy/#comment-10132>)

POLL

Arthouse and AMoA are merging for realz. What do you think?

- Ultimately it will be a good thing.
 God help the sane people on those boards.
 One step forward, ten steps back.
 Couldn't care less.

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- Redefinition: An Artistic Experience



(<http://glasstire.com/2011/10/04/howard-sherman-at-mcmurtrey-gallery/hs-250/>)
 Howard Sherman, "Champion island in the Mainstream," 2011, acrylic and marker on paper,
 24" x 18"

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- Saturday Free School - Experimental Writing Tactics (<http://glasstire.com/classifieds/show-listing/?id=426>)
- Tobin Distinguished Lecture: Thinking of Costumes as Shapes in Space (<http://glasstire.com/classifieds/show-listing/?id=425>)

In his most recent work, Sherman includes more textual reference, which seems a little too didactic, but nevertheless, the paintings are worth the intrusion. Considering the paintings are intrusive anyway, the text may not matter. Where Basquiat's self-destruction cut his promising career short in 1988, Sherman definitely is going somewhere.

Melissa Grobmyer (<http://www.mkgart.com/staff.html>) is founding partner of MKG Art Management (<http://www.mkgart.com/index.html>) in Houston.

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