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MONDAY, 02 AUGUST 2010

LOST HORIZON AND HEAD SHOP AT EXILE GALLERY'S SUMMER CAMP SERIES

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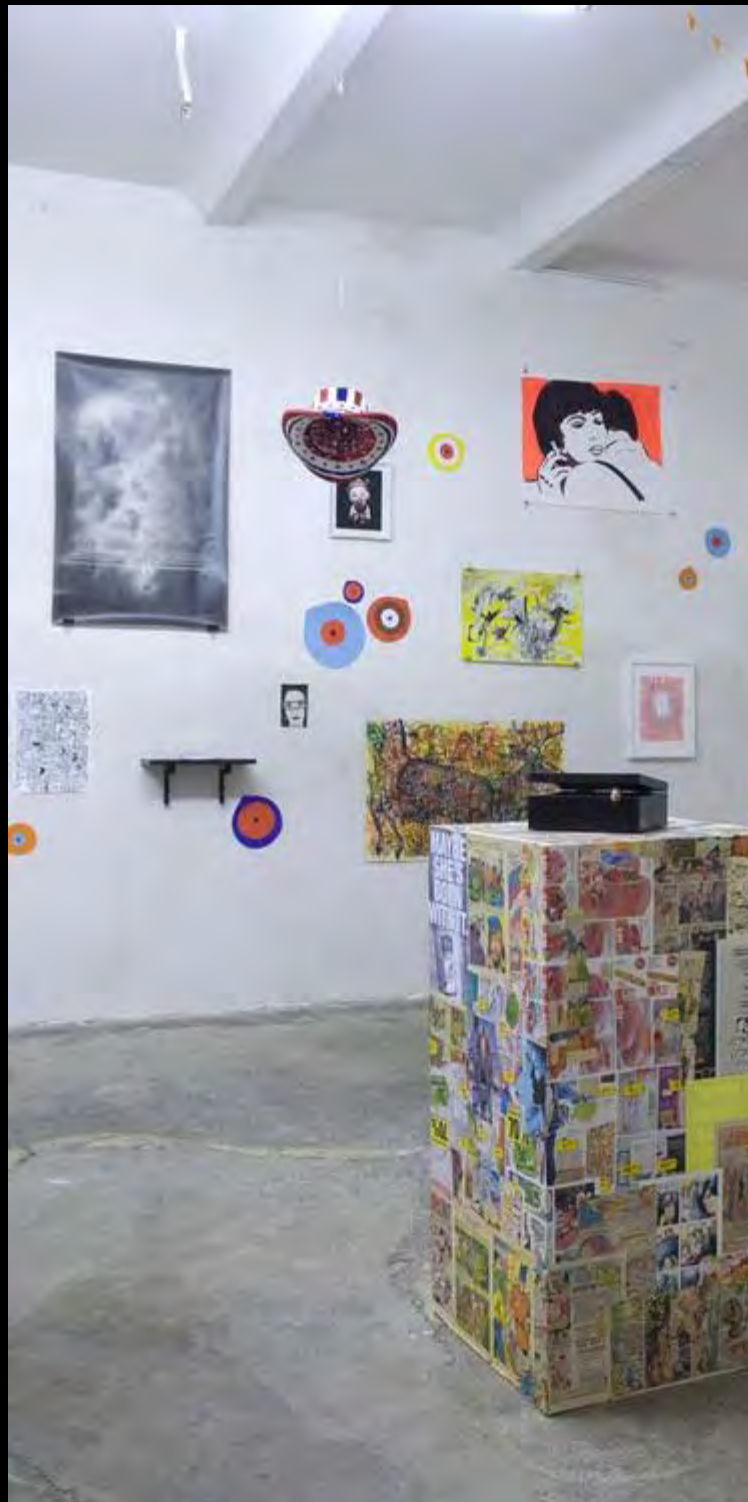
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Installation view of Head Shop

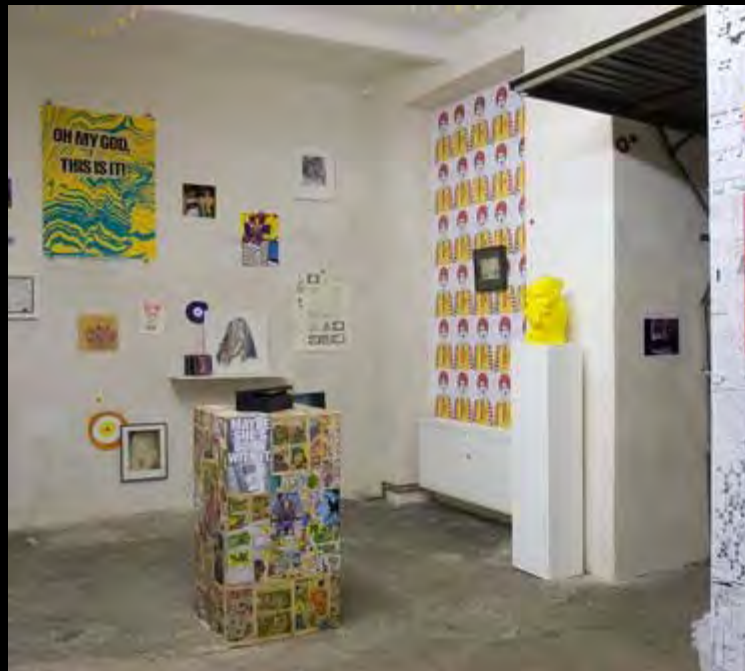
Exile is one of Berlin's most exciting young galleries - founded by Christian Siekmeier in 2008, and now run in partnership with Robin John Berwing, it has offered a steady exhibition schedule since its inception, along with an ambitious 'Summer Camp' program, a series of group shows cum happenings that offer a spirited alternative to the typical art opening. For their latest, Exile invited NY-based artist and publisher (of the cult magazine, Straight To Hell) ,Billy Miller, to put together two concurrent shows. One,



titled 'Lost Horizon', is inspired by the iconic novel and film of the same name, explores American Western archetypes through the lens of loss, while the second, 'Head Shop', owes its conceptual roots to legendary bohemian boutiques like London's Granny Takes a Trip, offering a crowded 'selling floor' full of work that explores the rich possibilities of the mind.

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Installation view of Head Shop

Walking through Head Shop felt like a conceptual carnival, with an overflow of color and unconventional representations and forms. My favorite pieces included Matt Borruso's beer and sequins muscleman collage and Berlin-based photographer, Krista Figacz's esoteric, tarot-like reconstructions, although I have to admit that I liked almost all of the work exhibited - a rare occurrence especially considering the overflow of images and objects on display.

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The Hof in front of Exile with an umbrella canopy



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Christopher Nolan's Inception _trying to figure out if I should see it or not...

David Lynch's Lost Highway

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Kristian Kozul

Untitled (American Noose), String, Sequins, Approx: 155cm x 25cm x 15cm, 2007/2008

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DIANE SPEAKS



... to the Shaded Audience

... to the world

DP sings Costas Argiriou for Filep Motwary

voice: Diane Pernet music composed by Costas Argiriou

CREDITS

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Krista Figacz

Not yet titled, c-type print, 15 x 11.5 cm, 2010

The next room, which houses the Lost Horizon show, has a more spare, discrete layout, which amplifies the effect of the work. While there are thematic echoes with the Head Shop show, Lost Horizon has a more desolate, apocalyptic feel to it, suggesting a tragic, ominous outcome lurking around the corner. My favorites here included Scott Hug's

retooled advertisement, which collides a painting of a clockface with advertising copy that proclaims "Honda Civic: What The World Is Coming To", and Carl Ferrero's blue and white pennants stretched across a cosmic canvas.



Installation view of Lost Horizon



Installation view of Lost Horizon



left: Scott Hug: Personal Finance (62% No, did not worry, 38% Yes, Worried (Gallup.com, March 2009)),

collaged color-aid on found National Geographic Magazine page, 32.4 x 24.14 cm, 2009

right: Scott Hug: U.S. Job Market (23% Hiring, 44% Not changing, 30% Letting go (Gallup.com, February

25-27, 2009), collaged color-aid on found National Geographic Magazine page, 32.4 x 24.14 cm, 2009



Carl Ferrero

Radiation, oil on linen and painted linen flags attached with string and nails, 76 x 121 cm, 2010



Michael Economy

Untitled, c-type print, 25 x 20 cm, 2006



Brendan Carroll

The Things They Carried, Polaroid photo, typewritten anecdote, opaque correction fluid. 10.8 x 8.8 cm, 2010.



Matt Borruso

Ring, cut paper collage, 55 x 40 cm, 2010

You can see the show until August 14th. Check out www.thisisexile.com for further info.

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