

For immediate release:

The Imposters

November 24 - December 22, 2018

Opening Party: November 24, 6PM-9PM

eitoeiko is pleased to announce a solo exhibition "The Imposters" by Ichiro Irie. Ichiro Irie created the first iteration of the "Imposter" series in 2009 using a different title called the "Sarah/Lucas" where he appropriated the sculptural and photographic works by the well-known YBA artist, Sarah Lucas. In this initial series and in the subsequent "Imposter" series he uses the common stationary item, "poster putty" (otherwise referred to as earthquake putty or mounting putty) to create 2-dimensional images with references from contemporary art, photography, film and music that influenced Irie and his peers during his teens and twenties.

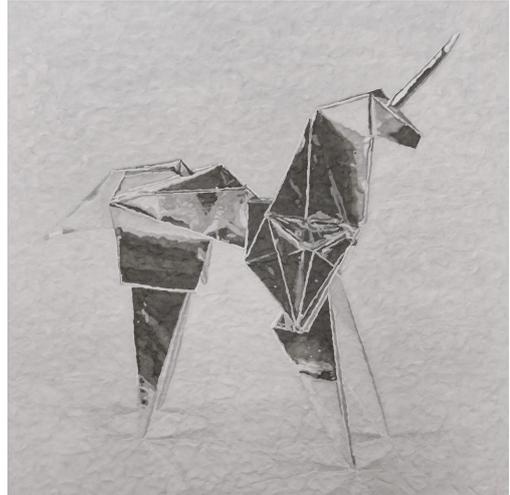
Irie considers this period of early adulthood to be a crucial moment in the formation of a person's identity throughout an individual's life. If you ask someone, "What's your all-time favorite movie (band, artist etc.)," more often than not, they will name something that was experienced during this period. Born in Tokyo, but raised in Los Angeles, most of Irie's major influences have been from the cannon of American and European cultural history. For example, within the subset of works with movie references, Irie selects objects and symbols that appear in films by 5 of his favorite directors, David Lynch, Alejandro Jodorowsky, Spike Lee, Ridley Scott and Stanley Kubrick. The images presented in these "posters", or more accurately "imposters", would probably be recognizable only to a serious fan of each auteur's works. However, instead of merely serving the function of nostalgic celebration, Irie considers the "Imposter" series as an opportunity for self-critique, with the decidedly masculine and west-centric narratives in all the movies referenced. The process of creating these works, accomplished by molding this unruly and gummy material by hand onto a flat surface, hopefully enhances the sensation of ambivalence for the viewer as it does for the artist.

For this current exhibition, "The Imposters", Irie presents a large collection of works he has made from the "Imposter" series, appropriating images from film, music and photography. Irie considers this project a culmination of his efforts using the poster-putty material.

Ichiro Irie

Born in Tokyo and raised in Los Angeles, Ichiro Irie is a visual artist, curator, director of the artist-run-space JAUS in Los Angeles, and founding member of the curatorial collective QiPO. Irie received his B.A. from University of California, Santa Barbara and his M.F.A. from Claremont Graduate University. After completing his M.F.A., Irie went to Mexico City on a Fulbright fellowship, and between the years 2002 and 2007 he founded and edited the contemporary art publication RiM magazine. As an artist, Irie has exhibited his work in galleries and museums internationally. Solo shows include DENK gallery in Los Angeles, Yautepec Gallery in Mexico City, and eitoeiko in Tokyo. Recent group exhibitions include the traveling exhibition "To Travel with Glasses" at Aomori Museum of Art, Shizuoka Prefectural Museum of Art and Iwami Art Museum; the Pacific Standard Time exhibition "Transpacific Borderlands: The Art of the Japanese Diaspora in Lima, Los Angeles, Mexico City, and São Paulo" at Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles; "Revision Glocal Review" at CECUT, Tijuana; Chockablockat UAM, Long Beach; "The Crystal Jungle" at Museo del Chopo, Mexico City; and SNAFU at Kunstverein Neckar-Odenwald in Germany. His work has been published in LA Weekly, Visual Art Source, White Hot magazine, Hyperallergic, Art and Cake, Art Zealous and Arte Contexto among others. Irie currently teaches at Oxnard College and Ryman Arts, and is an artist in residence at 18th Street Arts Center.

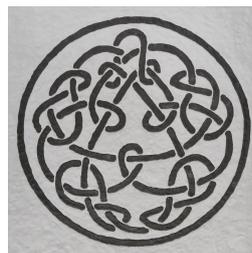
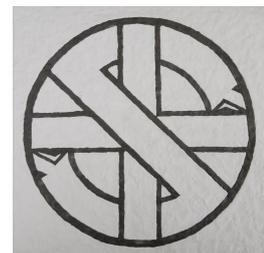
Images of artwork



Imposter: Lolita (left)

Imposter: Gaff (right)

Poster putty on panel, with frame, 24 x 24 inches(each), 2018



Imposter: The People by Kishin

Imposter: Anthrax, Crass, King Crimson and Marilyn Manson

Poster putty on panel with frame, 20 x 16 inches(Kishin), 12 x 12 inches(others), 2018

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