

# WALLWORKS



## Press Release

For Immediate Release

## Gallery Contact

Anna Matos, Director

### **organized CHAOS**

John Paul O'Grodnick / Steph Burr

March 28 – April 29, 2015

Opening Reception: Saturday March 28, 5-8pm

**BRONX, NY (March 24, 2015)** – WALLWORKS NEW YORK is proud to announce our two-person exhibition *organized CHAOS* featuring new works from John Paul O'Grodnick and Steph Burr.

With lots of color and details, the works of both O'Grodnick and Burr are a melange of imagery that may seem on the surface to be disorganized and disruptive. But upon looking closer and deeper to their works, one can see a method to the madness—an organization to the chaos.

O'Grodnick's layered canvas work mixed with his insightful message forces us to consider their relationship. Burr's mix of wildstyle and anthropomorphic images are a visual representation of working through the wildness of the mind. While the two may seem disjointed, they are incredibly complimentary to one another.

### **ABOUT JOHN PAUL O'GRODNICK**

*John Paul O'Grodnick was born and raised in Fairfield County, Connecticut. Living in a musical household, he was introduced to the arts at a very young age. His father George played drums in many bands throughout the years and bred him to have a very eclectic music taste including jazz, obscure rock n roll and reggae. John credits his older sister Laura for exposing him to punk rock and especially to New York artists, like Andy Warhol and Jean-Michel Basquiat.*

*Coming into his adulthood, John lived out his passion of the arts in various ways. He began painting in his mid twenties. His paintings have evolved since growing into himself through many life experiences. John indulges in art by frequenting live concerts, playing the drums and visiting museums. He also advocates meditation and believes through his practice that he learned how to open up his mind and channel his third eye. John uses these methods throughout the entirety of the painting process. He always has music playing which inspires his work.*

*John describes his style of painting as "beautiful dirty industrial street art" he would define himself as "different, creative and outgoing". Others would comment on his undeniable sense of humor, his intense passion, and intelligence. A humble creature, John is elated to share his love of art for the world to see.*

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## **ABOUT STEPH BURR**

*Born in Ridgecrest, CT, Steph Burr spent much of her childhood taking photographs and drawing—fostering her creativity at a young age. She went on to obtain a dual BA in both Film and Studio Art from Fairfield University.*

*With a deep respect for art therapy, Burr’s feelings towards art can be described as: “Our existence is very chaotic and can be overwhelming at times. For many, art can be a way to turn off the brain chatter and relax. By allowing the analytical mind to fall asleep, one can freely become controlled by instinct...if our purpose as humans is to rationalize chaos, it is clear that everyone does so in a different way and for a different societal purpose. Working to understand oneself as a cog in a complex system is a process that can be very healing. As an artist, my journey for understanding is not primarily logical or scientific: it is visceral.”*

## **ABOUT WALLWORKS NEW YORK:**

*A new contemporary art gallery, WALLWORKS NEW YORK is invested in bringing exciting and interesting art back to the Bronx. The passion project of John CRASH Matos and Robert Kantor, the gallery exhibits work from both local artists and artists from all over the world, both established and emerging.*

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John Paul O'Grodnick

*The Smell of Freedom*, 2015

Spray paint and acrylic on canvas

20 x 20 in / 50.8 x 50.8 cm

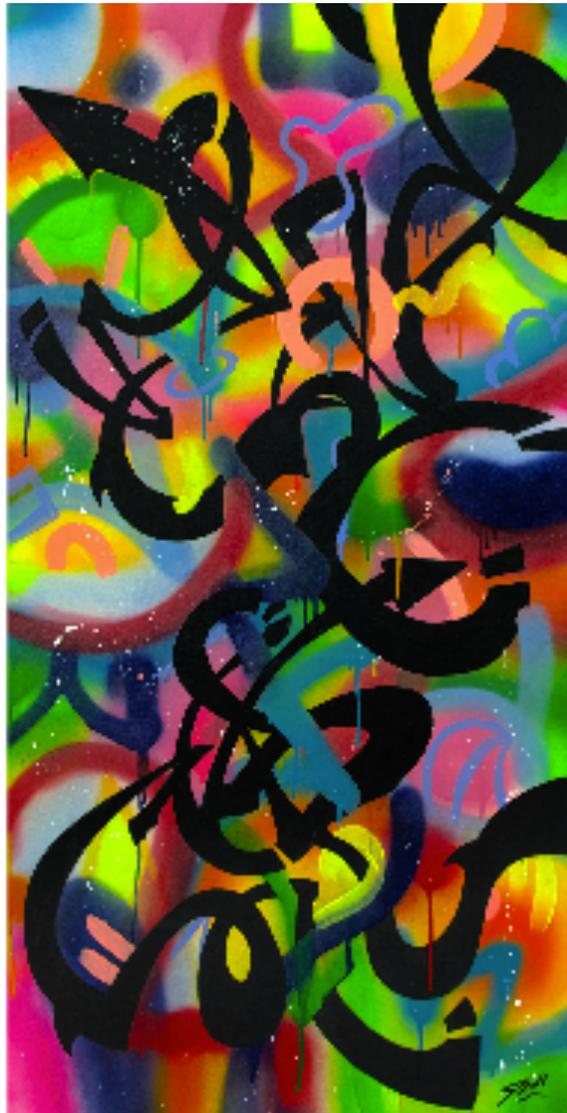
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Steph Burr

*Color Bomb*, 2015

Aerosol and acrylic on canvas

24 x 48 in / 60.96 x 121.92 cm

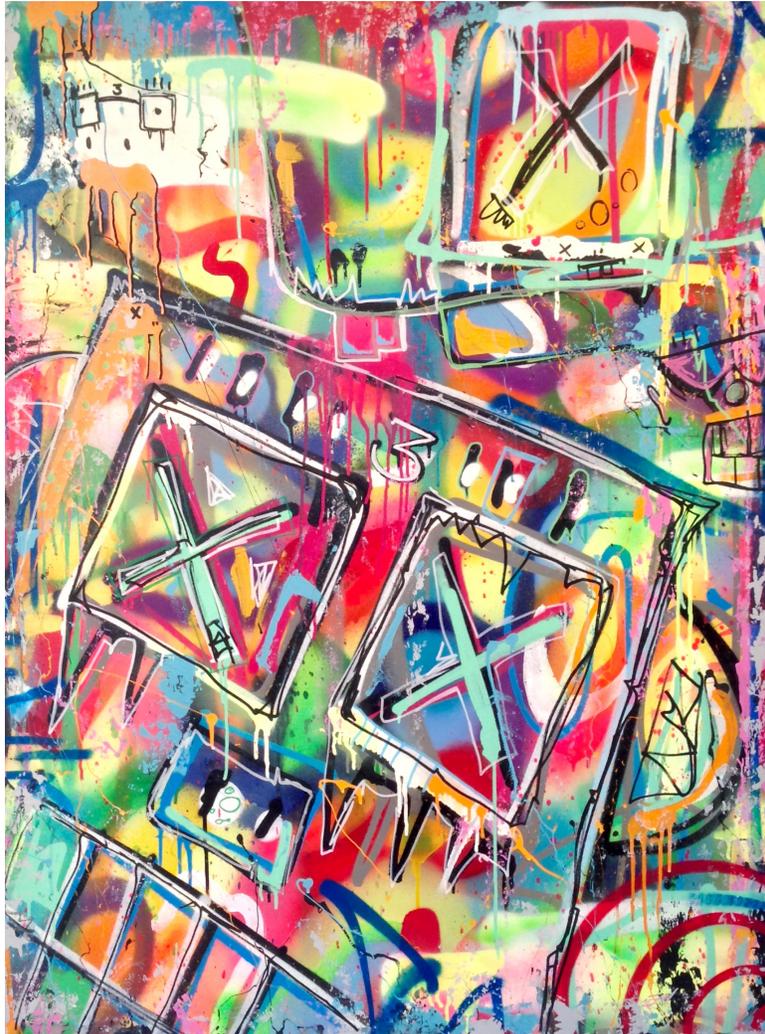
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John Paul O'Grodnick and Steph Burr

*Wild Snake*, 2015

Aerosol, spray paint and acrylic on canvas

48 x 36 in / 121.92 x 91.44 cm