

MAXIMALISM

Steph Burr solo exhibition

January 21 – February 22, 2017

Opening Reception

January 21, 2017

5 – 8pm

BRONX, NY (JANUARY 21, 2017) –WALLWORKS NEW YORK is proud to announce the first exhibition of the year, a solo exhibition of represented gallery Connecticut-based artist, Steph Burr.

Her first solo exhibition here at **WALLWORKS NEW YORK** is an exploration of what she calls “maximalism”—a response to the chaotic ethereal mass of information. It is an attempt to rationalize and organize the chaos into a composition that is comprehensible and thus aesthetically pleasing.

Using bright colors and familiar cultural references, her works flow and hypnotize the audience through the act of channeling chaos from the outside world into artistic expression.

This exhibition marks her first time working with prints, as well. A limited edition run of 50 of her first massive work, *Creature Jam*, was produced through **WALLWORKS NEW YORK** in conjunction with the opening of *MAXIMALISM*.

ABOUT STEPH BURR:

Steph Burr grew up in a small town in NWCT. She began making art at 13 when her mother suddenly passed away from liver cancer. She was able to stay out of trouble by using Freudian sublimation to transform her anger and sadness into paint stains on her bedroom walls and carpets (and occasionally actual canvases).

Steph went on to obtain a dual BA in Film and Studio Art from Fairfield University. While at Fairfield, her work was often criticized as “busy” and “overworked”. Despite encouragement from professors, the critiques left her feeling isolated and misunderstood. During the spring of her senior year, CRASH held a retrospective show “From the 4 Train to Fenders” on campus.

Steph attended the show and upon seeing his work realized that there might be other people who could relate to what she was doing. She had the opportunity to speak to Crash, ask him about painting trains and running from the cops, and even got to show him a few images of her work.

Over the years Steph remained a huge fan of Crash’s work and was elated when he hired her to assist with his painting of the legendary Houston-Bowery wall. Burr says that meeting Crash was a truly life-changing event and admits that she might not have continued making art if it were not for his encouragement and understanding of her colorful “busy” “overworked” style.

Burr describes painting as a method of self-healing and has integrated this process into her philosophical and spiritual beliefs. Linking the practice to the Jungian process of Individuation, she uses art as a language to translate understanding of herself and existence.