

AARON OBLVN "100 PAINTINGS"

MARCH 10—APRIL 1, 2012

OPENING: SATURDAY MARCH 10, 2012 FROM 6-10PM

KLUGHAUS GALLERY

47 Monroe St. New York, NY 10002

Emerging Pacific Northwest artist OBLVN hand paints 100 exclusive illustrations in honor of New York City debut—New York, NY - Feb 27, 2012 - Klughaus Gallery is proud to announce the debut of "100 Paintings," a solo exhibition of brand new, one-of-a-kind illustrated works by Portland, Oregon-based artist and cartoonist Aaron OBLVN. In honor of his first ever east coast show, OBLVN has been hard at work for months preparing one hundred illustrations exclusively for Klughaus; highlights of the character and cartoon-heavy exhibit include contemporary, tongue-in-cheek remixes of classic cartoon characters like 'Felix The Cat' as an art thief and 'Dennis the Menace' as a vandal, as well as many original works, from mischievous spray can characters to runaway inkwells.

Why one hundred works? "I've been drawing my whole life, but really focusing on this style for about three years now—but not on this scale," says OBLVN. "I read once in a sign painting comic strip by [cartoonist] Justin Green that it takes about 100 hours of brushing before you finally get your lettering down," says OBLVN of one of the motives behind sitting down to tackle the daunting task of creating one hundred pieces of art for a single show. "So I figured if I did 100 characters, I would definitely get some good practice in. I can tell from the first cartoons I started doing a few years ago that I've gotten better. It's always great to see your own progress."

In addition to breaking the gallery record for the highest number of works in a single show, the breadth and depth of OBLVN's body of playful, accessible work makes "100 Paintings" a show with literally something for everyone. "I love cartoons," he says of his trademark subject matter. "I'm picky, but I love a lot of styles. From Vaughn Bode, Basil Wolverton, Skip Williamson, Text Avery, Ralph Bakshi and John K to more contemporary artists like Barry McGee and Todd James."

In this vein "100 Paintings" is both a one-of-a-kind body of work as well as a collective ode to the artists OBLVN emulates, and he is looking forward to piecing together his collection of puzzle pieces in New York City: "I'm really stoked on the work as a whole," he says. "So much of my time is spent up close with the pieces, my face only a few inches from my brush and the ink that it's sort of crazy to step back and see the work as a body. It's pretty cool to see how much I cranked out. It's so awesome that [the opening] is in NY, but seriously daunting. I'm excited."

The opening for "100 Paintings" will take place Saturday, March 10th from 6-10 pm. Please RSVP to rsvp@klughaus.net.

For high res photos and all other media queries, please contact Liz Suman at suman@klughaus.net

About **Aaron OBLVN**

Aaron OBLVN is a Portland-based artist known for his cheeky, mischievous characters and clean and playful design work. In addition to an extensive background as a graffiti artist working throughout the country, Aaron has exhibited at many prestigious galleries along the west coast. Most recently, his work was featured in MoCA's highly praised "Art in the Streets" exhibition in Los Angeles. Last but not least, Aaron has designed for many well known commercial projects and brands including Nike, Dell, Ecko, Upper Playground, Winners Circle, *Clout Magazine*, and more. He lives in Portland, Oregon, and his favorite cartoons include *Thundercats*, *GI Joe* and "definitely *Scooby Doo*."

About **Klughaus Gallery**

Klughaus Gallery works primarily with artists with roots in graffiti and street culture. The gallery exhibits a variety of fine art works reasonably priced for everyone from the general public to serious collectors. In addition, the gallery offers an extensive portfolio of aerosol artists for commissioned work. Most importantly, we vow to protect the identity of those artists that work with us who wish to remain anonymous. Klughaus Gallery seeks to develop itself as a leader in fostering art appreciation within the local (Chinatown/LES) community.

Opening Reception for "OBLVN - 100 Paintings"

All are invited to attend the opening reception for "100 Paintings" on Saturday, March 10, from 6-10pm. Please RSVP for this event by emailing rsvp@klughaus.net. The exhibit will be on display through April 1, 2012. In addition to the 100 paintings themselves, a small number of limited edition posters and OBLVN x KLUGHAUS t-shirts will also be available for sale. Refreshments for this event will be generously donated by Bomb Lager (<http://www.bomblager.com>). For more information about the gallery and the opening, please visit <http://www.klughaus.net>

Please direct all media inquiries to Liz Suman suman@klughaus.net

Klughaus Gallery **47 Monroe St. New York, NY 10002**. Ph: 646-801-6024