

"Subterrane" Group Exhibit

<u>Stranger Factory</u> is pleased to announce "Subterrane", a group sculpture exhibit featuring a diverse roster of gifted emerging sculptural artists. Featuring the talents of Carisa Swenson (Goblinfruit Studio), Shing Yin Khor (Sawdust Bear), Valency Genis, Melita Curphy (Miss Monster), Yosiell Lorenzo, and Shea Brittain (FrankenFactory), Subterrane will offer viewers a chance to tumble down the rabbit hole into a fantastic world inhabited by creatures that offer a glimpse at the best and worst of our own human nature.

Through sculpture, these artists are able to present complex human emotions as fantastic creatures that allow the viewer a chance to discard preconceived notions based on human familiarity and focus solely on the artists' intent. Without the distraction of familiar human faces, we're able to see more clearly how our anger, love, joy, and loss shape and define our inner creatures.

Subterrane will open at Stranger Factory on Friday, November 9th, with an opening reception from 6 PM - 9 PM. Stranger Factory is <u>located at 109 Carlisle Blvd NE</u>, in Albuquerque's historic Nob Hill neighborhood at the corner of Carlisle and Central.



<u>Carisa Swenson's</u> passion for creating curious creatures springs from many sources—a love of Greek mythology and Ray Harryhausen's creations when she was a child, an appreciative eye for Henson Workshop in her teens, to the weird and wonderful films of Jan Svankmajer and The Brothers Quay in her twenties. Since 2006 her work as<u>Goblinfruit Studio</u> has been featured in numerous exhibitions and publications, both internationally and within the Unites States. Carisa resides in New York with her better half, two cats, and has a weakness for craft beers and Nutella.



<u>Shing Yin Khor</u> works with clay, wood, paper, fabric and occasionally steel. Her sculptures are rooted in the ideas of bad science, historical hoaxes and cabinets of curiosities. She lives in Los Angeles with her wonderful husband, Jason, and a charming, asthmatic cat named General Guster McWheezypants(Gus). "<u>Sawdust Bear</u>" is a nickname from her scene shop days when she frequently wore a knit bear hat, usually covered in sawdust.



<u>Yosiell Lorenzo's</u> work incorporates a process of textures and washes. Thematically, he continues to explore issues of sadness and longing in varying mediums, including: sculpture, paintings, graphite, ink, mixed media and digital vector art. He has had a solo show every year since 2008 and his paintings and resin sculptures are collected around the world. Additionally, <u>Yosiell</u> makes his presence known in group shows around the country with events in New York, LA, San Francisco, Chicago and Miami. Recent personal highlights include being a featured artist in the Pixar Times.



<u>Melita Curphy (Miss Monster)</u> currently lives in Chicago, though south Texas is her original home. Her work varies from gouache and acrylic paintings, to cast plastic, plush, sculpey, leather and wood to the variety of materials used for her costumes, dolls and sculpture. She attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago '96-2000 after graduating from the Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts in California. Melita taught illustration techniques for (almost) four semesters at a community college in Texas, leaving to work on the animated film A Scanner Darkly in Austin. Moving back to Chicago, she worked as a graphic designer at Motorola while doing freelance work on the side. March 2008 was the start of full time self employment and now the majority of her time is spent running her <u>online store</u> out of her studio basement. She's a fan of tentacles.



<u>Valency Genis</u> is a recent Summa Cum Laude BFA college grad...who's been married for 20 years and has 2 sons in high school. Her taxidermy sculpture is simultaneously terrifying and engrossing, and highlights the grotesquery of keeping dead animals for personal aesthetic enjoyment.

About <u>Stranger Factory</u>: A unique, highly-visible gallery located in Nob Hill just off the historically famous Route 66 (Central Ave) in the heart of Albuquerque, NM, Stranger Factory is dedicated to bringing a new style of art to the area.

With their worldwide network of talent, Stranger Factory brings many incredible names in the

post modern, pop surrealist and "lowbrow" art community to Albuquerque for the first time and also offers aspiring art collectors the opportunity to begin their collections with original works and editioned releases at affordable prices. The gallery is the official flagship retail outlet for all Circus Posterus goods, including original artwork, limited edition prints, art volumes, sculptural editions, apparel, as well as other gifts, novelties, designer toys, and curious objects of beauty and wonder!

About <u>Circus Posterus</u>: Circus Posterus began in 2000 as a small collective of fine artists, illustrators, gallery curators and collaborators working together to create exhibitions and art projects utilizing the diverse backgrounds of each of its members. The group officially evolved into an established company in 2007 by original founders Kathie Olivas and Brandt Peters.

The internationally-recognized fine artist couple dedicated their diversified backgrounds in original artworks, toy design, printmaking, packaging, marketing, brand management, licensing and art event creation in order to create specialty products that allow other artists the time and motivation to expand their own markets.