

# Stranger Factory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Stranger Factory art space is proud to present its August 2012 exhibition:**

**Travis Louie's *Spirits***

**Aug. 3 – Sept. 3, 2012**

**Opening Reception: Fri., Aug. 3, 6-9pm**

**Artist will be in attendance**

**+ An art workshop will also be held in conjunction with the event**

Travis Louie has always been a dreamer. Through the tiny drawings and notes in his journals, he's created an imaginary world of creatures rooted in Victorian and Edwardian times. A world inhabited by human oddities, mythical beings and otherworldly characters, it's presented in the style of film noir and German expressionist cinematography. The underlining thread that connects all these characters is the unusual circumstances that shape who they were and how they lived. Some of their origins are a complete mystery while others leave subtle cues: a man cursed by a goat; a strange, furry being discovered sleeping in a hedge; an engine driver who can't stop vibrating in his sleep, and so forth. With *Spirits*, Travis' newest collection of two- and three-dimensional works, he delves into the realm of the supernatural and his characters' curiosity with the dead ...

## **ARTIST BIO:**

Travis Louie was born in Queens, NY, about a mile from the site of the 1964 World's Fair. His early childhood was spent drawing and watching "Atomic Age" sci-fi and horror movies. There were many Saturday afternoon trips to the local comics shop and noon matinees at the RKO Keith's cinema on Northern Blvd., where he marveled at the 1950s memorabilia: the rocket ships, the superheroes, the giant monsters, and old pulp art covers. He did thousands of sketches of genre characters like Godzilla, King Kong, and a host of creatures from Ray Harryhausen movies.

The visual style of his work is mostly influenced by the lighting and atmosphere of German Expressionist and Film Noir motion pictures from the Silent Era to the late 1950's. Films from directors like F W Murnau, Fritz Lang, Orson Welles, Robert Siodmak, Robert Aldrich, Jacque Tourneur, and cinematographer, Greg Toland, had a great effect on the way he wanted his paintings to look.

The influences for his work are many; the genre films, his fascination with human oddities, circus sideshows, old Vaudeville magic acts, Victorian portraits, and things otherworldly, are all blended together to enable him to bring life to the characters and stories he writes in his journals.

Website and social media : [www.travislouieartworks.com](http://www.travislouieartworks.com) | [www.travislouie.com](http://www.travislouie.com) | @travislouie

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**STRANGER FACTORY** brings a fresh perspective to the American art + design scene, connecting world class artists from the Pop Surrealist and Lowbrow movements to New Mexico. Dedicated to providing aspiring art collectors the opportunity to begin their collections with original artworks and limited edition releases at affordable prices, Stranger Factory is not only a collaborative effort among the artists, but between the space and its patrons as well.

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We're open:

Mon - Thurs: 11am - 6pm

Fri-Sat: 11am - 7pm

Sunday: 11am - 5pm

& by appointment











