

**P.A.D.**

München Monopoly

**GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER**

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For this interview Enno Schramm picked up the conversation with Patrick Mohundro, the director of the P.A.D. gallery space in New York. During VARIOUS OTHERS 2021, the space is being hosted by GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER.

ES: Hello, Patrick. How would you introduce yourself to our audience?

PM: My name is Patrick Mohundro and I am the director of P.A.D., Project Art Distribution. We are a pop-up art exhibition space in the historic SOHO District in New York City. Our goal is to platform small and editioned works by artists who are interested in exploring new ways of exhibiting. Our project reflects the bustling economy of artists making, selling, and promoting their artworks on the street year-round, weather permitting of course, as we saw in Munich last Friday and Saturday.

ES: So, what can we experience artistically in the context of your partnership with GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER?

PM: We brought over 22 artists to GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER. The exhibition consists of 25 pieces, so just over 22. Each artist was given a Statue of Liberty souvenir that they were asked to reimagine as their work of art. Pieces vary in terms of conceptual approaches. For instance, James Chrzan exhibits keys and photographs from a safe deposit box in Ridgewood, Queens, that house the souvenir where he is safeguarding it. Alex Schmidt aka Body Confidence exhibits business cards from a photograph taken where she modeled for a life-drawing class posing with the Statue of Liberty. And there are more classical sculptures, for example alterations, casts, or impressions of the souvenir. I think the artist Ilana Harris-Babou who was in last year's Whitney biennial did this. We also have a really nice piece by Chang Sujung where she made miniature clothing and a bag for the Lady Liberty out of a used I Love New York T-shirt.

ES: That sounds like a manifold range of works. Is there something thematic that could summarize the approaches or are they too diverse?

PM: I'm not exactly sure about a precise theme. Kristina Schmidt, the artist who is exhibiting right now at GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER, invited me into the project. We talked a lot about the market and luxury in New York and in Munich and I guess that's why the show is called Monopoly. There is something highly important about P.A.D.'s relationship to real estate and art—rent is too damn high. The theme might just be about artists having fun. We often play with the idea of what art is. Specifically, P.A.D. focuses on how it's shown and distributed. For instance, I don't take a cut of the sales. It's about affordability and access to contemporary art as opposed to locking it away in some sort of ivory tower. For the show in Munich, P.A.D. invited artists to work in their own style on this very important cultural object. How each P.A.D. show manifests depends on the input of the artist's network. In this sense, P.A.D. is sort of holding space for ideas of our peers. It is all about friendship and community. The souvenir itself, the Statue of Liberty, is often given as a gift to friends and family. Maybe the artwork could be an invitation to extend our own community at P.A.D. and the artist's sense of community to an international audience by inviting friendship and kinship globally. And perhaps the collectors of the works might re-gift them, continuing to spread this love.

ES: Liberty itself is a rather abstract yet strong idea. Could you elaborate on that in respect to the work being shown?

PM: You will see different versions of liberty in the show. The exhibition as a whole kind of exists as a group of all these classic almost modernist examples of how to make a sculpture from representation—as in Andy Ralph's piece where he made his own Statue of Liberty from a beer bottle, a tank top shirt, and a plant. His three-year-old son had stolen his Lady Liberty and hid it somewhere in the house, so we had to improvise. Then there are other examples of destroying Lady Liberty and putting her back together. There is also the classic wrapping of the sculpture where the artist covers it in some sort of fabric or, as in Topher Lineberry's sculpture, in rubber bands. The piece is called Rubberbandwidth and the statue kind of acts as this prisoner to rubber bands, to their capacity, their own band width. Over time Lady Liberty will slowly escape from the piece because, of course, the elastic in the rubber bands breaks and slowly reveals the statue underneath.

Next, there are more feminist takes on the Statue of Liberty where one artist, Adams Puryear, has made Lady Liberty into a knife. In this way, she is the holder of her own destiny. She can slash away any sort of repression. Amra Causevic has converted Lady Liberty into a warrior figure, adding a sword in place of her flame and chipping away or carving away at the statue itself to give her legs.

ES: The idea of liberty becomes a transformative process?

PM: Transformation is certainly one of the things that's going on. We are seeing different versions of liberty, subjective modes of liberty, how we experience freedom and express freedom in this time. We are all sort of locked up at the

moment and are finding different ways to be free. In this way, especially with the many alterations of the sculpture, the souvenir begins to be exemplary of how we might each tackle freedom in this post-pandemic epoch.

ES: Could you tell us why or on what shared basis you decided to partner up with GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER for VARIOUS OTHERS 2021?

PM: The main catalyst for the project was Kristina Schmidt, one of Christine Mayer's artists. She has been a huge proponent of P.A.D. and has participated in P.A.D exhibitions on numerous occasions. The roster mostly includes artists who have previously contributed to P.A.D.. I think of these exhibitions as being very collaborative. So, when we work on special projects such as the one for VARIOUS OTHERS, we want to invite past collaborators as a way to give them a bigger platform.

ES: So, if you think about it philosophically, Patrick, my final question for you is: What remains?

PM: Yeah, what remains... I don't know. Freedom, right?

ES: Well, I hope so, and I think we could agree on that, but is there something else? I mean, it's a nice final word from you but still feel free to answer as you like.

PM: Well, what remains of the actual exhibition is sort of the leftovers. P.A.D. is in dialogue with the street vendors and hustlers as much as it is with the white cube. In that sense, it's a luxury item. Whatever didn't sell on the day I performed the "Deal," where I performed the salesman, is being exhibited as an archive on the second floor of GALERIE CHRISTINE MAYER. So, you can have access to the viewing room where you can see what did and did not sell, remnants of an art exhibition on the street.

ES: Thank you. That is a strong and beautiful statement. All the best for your work and the work of P.A.D. gallery in New York.

PM: Take care.

You can find this interview online under

<https://variousothers.com/stories/interview-patrick-mohundro-pad-new-york-city>



Installation view



Installation view



Adam Marnie

*Our Lady in Vienna*, 2021

Statue of Liberty figurine, canned sausages, serving plate, fork, knife, cloth napkin

Dimensions variable



Jessi Li  
*Concrete Liberty*, 2021  
Cast, concrete, Statue of Liberty figurine  
22 x 9.5 x 6 cm



Abelardo Cruz Santiago  
*Boondoggle Liberty*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, nylon  
22 x 14 x 14 cm





Topher Lineberry  
*Rubberbandwidth*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, rainbow loom bands  
Dimensions variable



Harry Moritz  
*München Monopoly: America Medium*, 2021  
Staute of Liberty figurine, plastic, brass, aluminium, coin  
20 x 10 x 10 cm



Christine Navin  
*1:456 Statue of Liberty*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine encased in pyrite  
20 x 6 x 6 cm



Erik Sommer  
*Cement Statue of Liberty*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, gesso, matte medium, cement  
19 x 8 x 8 cm



Baris Gokturk  
*Product damaged, but shipping box OK*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine  
22 x 6 x 6 cm



SiSi Chen  
*There's Gotta Be An Alternative To Hinge*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, sharpie  
22 x 6 x 6 cm



Amra Gausevic  
*my lady lady, from a far.....*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, color pencil, epoxy, chandelier crystal, tip of a squirrel's tail  
28 x 8 x 8 cm



Christina Barrera

*Bulto*, 2021

Statue of Liberty figurine, plastic netting, wool thread, cotton thread, acrylic, graphite

22 x 6 x 6 cm





Kat Chamberlin  
*Love & Affection*, 2021  
Cast, aluminum  
22 x 6 x 6 cm



Alejandro De La Guerra  
*Cloudy*, 2021  
Construction foam, Statue of Liberty figurine  
22 x 15 x 14 cm



Patrick Costello  
*Liberty Tent*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, sewn nylon and cyanotypes on cotton  
22 x 6 x 6 cm



Peter Hoffmeister  
*Liberty Lint*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, cast aluminum, dryer lint, pastel, varnish  
10 x 7,5 x 19 cm



Andy Ralph  
*Statue*, 2021  
Clay, ribbed cotton tank top, cast tin, plant clippings, beer bottle  
33 x 15 x 20 cm



Chang Sujung, *I ♥ NY too*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, classic I ♥ NY cotton tee, 30,5 x 30,5 x 101

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Username	Number of stars	Date	Website	Review
				First time ever visiting the Statue of Liberty and it was absolutely amazing, everything I thought it would be! Once you take the ferry and end up on the island the anticipation of walking around to the front of her to capture that perfect picture is such a great moment! There wasn't very many people there which was nice because it wasn't crowded so we were able to get all kinds of pictures! We were there on the trip with my son senior class so we didn't try to go up inside of it or anything. I'm not even sure that it was open. After viewing the beautiful Liberty we went into the gift shop and spent about \$300 and souvenirs, first time there so we wanted to make sure that everybody got a little piece of memory! After we were done in the gift shop we went into the cafe and ordered some lunch I had the cheeseburger and fries and my husband had the chicken strips and fries. The chicken strips were by far the best chicken strips ever and definitely better than the cheeseburger. My cheeseburger was kind of cold and I wasn't a huge fan of it but the fries were great. I highly do suggest getting the chicken strips though if you end up eating here! Taking the ferry to and from was just as fun, the sun was setting and it was just absolutely beautiful and perfect! Definitely would return here again!
Marsela M.	4	4 months ago	Google Maps	
Lawless	1	2 years ago	Google Maps	The site is wonderful but it is way to crowded. To many people and not enough employees and security to handle the people. The system they have is pretty much just herd everyone like cattle into the smallest security section. They need a better system.
Jason Wyatt	2	2 a year ago	Google Maps	Monument OK but restaurant system is poor. Long queues, not enough seating. Food is OK but after queuing to pay, with our food, it was not so warm. Waiting for an hour in the cold for ferry home also not ideal. Would go again because it's such an icon but experience would be so much better organised if it was in, say, Germany.
Ben Dover	2	2 a year ago	Google Maps	The veges one is better.
Barbara Smith	3	3 a year ago	Google Maps	Could use a better system for people with disabilities, while waiting in line.
Sang-Oun Lee	3	2 years ago	Google Maps	It would have been much better if the ferry website had better explanations
Garrett Smith	3	5 years ago	Google Maps	it was aight, might be better if it was a male
Dean Stevenson	3	4 years ago	Google Maps	I think this better from a distance
Fae Phillips	4	4 a year ago	Google Maps	The only reason I don't give it five stars is because I was disappointed with their souvenir selection. There were much better Statue of Liberty souvenirs to be found in New York itself. Other than that, everything else was wonderful!
Venkataraman Ramay	3	3 years ago	Google Maps	It was so hot and crowded and long waits for everything in the direct sun and my guests felt sick. they were all down with dehydration and fever. No shelter whatsoever.
Haunted In Tennessee	4	7 years ago	Google Maps	Never will go there again.
Holly Ridpath	3	3 a year ago	Google Maps	How can ANYONE give her a bad review??? Damned "YELPERS" make me sick! She's awesome!!! Historical. Seagulls are bad in the eating area. All they did was fly around are food! Put the eating area inside, man those seagulls were crazy. But otherwise, it was great.
Matt McDowell	3	4 years ago	Google Maps	Kinda cool to see it but there's honestly not much to see. Food is overpriced and it's difficult to get tickets to actually go inside
Steve Hutchison	2	2 years ago	Google Maps	Tall statue... not much patriotic heart string pulling... birds pooped on us three times in 10 minutes at outside dining area.
Teresa Shaw	4	2 years ago	Google Maps	We liked LADY liberty but the food was not good. Cold and the birds were bad.
Jess Pierce	4	4 a year ago	Google Maps	Defiantly a bucket list stop for me! Myself & my boyfriend got tickets to the crown. ONLY GET TICKETS THROUGH STATUE CRUISES, all other ticket touts on the ground are fake. We booked ours well in advance before we left for NYC as tickets are limited daily for the crown. We went late January and there was hardly any crowds, we left on the ferry from Battery Park, security is very like airport security. We managed the whole tour in half a day, but i can imagine at peak season this would take a whole day, so be prepared to que, then que some more. The spiral steps going up to the crown are very narrow, hot, claustrophobic and scary. One you get into the crown the space is very small and i felt a little unsafe, but the views are incredible. The steps to the pedestal are fine, but i would never do the crown again. Im glad i went to the Crown and done it, but i would never do it again.

Rebecca Baldwin  
Reviewed, 2021  
Shareable spreadsheet  
Dimensions vary





Alex Schmidt (b. 1987)  
*Kunt* (2021)  
Performance  
Edition of 100

Alex Schmidt aka Body Confidence  
*Kunt*, 2021  
Performance  
Dimensions vary



Adams Puryear  
*Shiv*, 2021  
Statue of Liberty figurine, blade  
18 x 6 x 5 cm



Ilana Harris-Babou  
*Liberty Bars*, 2021  
Aqua Resin and pigment  
20,5 x 8 x 3 cm (each)

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