

Cudelice Brazelton IV

*Scurried*

September 7 – October 28, 2023

Lodos is pleased to present *Scurried*, a new exhibition by Cudelice Brazelton IV. The exhibition incorporates materials in painting, installation and video to form and respond as an assembled system of narrative and *mise en scene*.

The installation titled *Stoop* seeks to replicate the architecture of an American urban street. Referencing the patio, the porch, and the stoop as a place of gathering or destination, the two tone pattern of bricks in foam create an area of its own. An ashtray in the shape of a wheel is lodged into the black brick box, signaling this point as a site to idly stand in congregation, gossip, or conspire. *Bumpkin*, a painting raised above the gallery with a block of foam squeezed by a tattered belt resting on top like a head, overlooks the space. The caricature aspect is reinforced by a tucked in black strip that drapes down to a black spool; bringing forth a dark playfulness while dealing with formal aspects of abstraction and figuration

The three works *Crossroad Metaphor*, *Harsh Instruction*, and *Suited Approach* are sequenced painting collages. They are rough with raised surfaces and cut into to reveal reflections underneath the frame. A pair of eyes show in the reflection, followed by a sloppy message in green paint, and a reconstructed uniform. The paintings act as dark pavement for Brazelton, as stock images of Black chauffeurs reflect and extrude from them. Like gestures, they animate the highly textured paintings in the context of the urban block drop off.

Brazelton's processes and methods with mixed media tend to the tensions of the city, often citing a mix of anxiety and insistent expression. *False Braid* embraces abstraction in painting. Synthetic braided leather was walked on and worked over during various production processes in the artist's studio. The texture resembles a belt or a woven texture, intersecting with the notion of a body.

The bodily motif continues with *Work Sample*, which is split within the gallery as an object and a video work. The CD case hanging on the wall fragments the figure through its shape as a pair of denim jeans. Holding inside of it is a disc of which content is the video playing in the gallery. Recorded by artist Mahmoud Tarek, *Work Sample* is an experimental video tutorial of Brazelton's ongoing burning practice. A conversation between Tarek and Brazelton can be heard over video footage of a burned denim transfer of a haircut on a wall. The hole in the wall acts as the slot for the video and a direct focal point for the barbershop image to the storefront.

Small openings and fragmented bodies in abstraction ornament the space. Accessory is more than a decorative element in Brazelton's practice. Instead the accessory act as a physical symbol that embraces intuition and chance to signal to the constant assemblages of the city or the street block. *Scurried* is an exhibition that works in-between abstract modern modalities given in the environment with inventive material metaphors that don't shy away from the presence of the hand.

**Cudelice Brazelton IV** (b. 1991, Dallas, USA. Lives and works in Frankfurt, Germany) Selected exhibitions include: Freiburg Biennale, Freiburg (2023); *Under Conditions*, Wschód, Warsaw (2022); *Auto Picture*, Cell Projects, London (2022); *A Curve of Many*, Murmurs, Los Angeles (2022); *Don't Say I Didn't Say So*, Kunstverein Bielefeld, Bielefeld (2022); *Whereabouts*, Hessel Museum of Art, New York (2022); *Beneath Tongues*, Swiss Institute, New York (2022); *Starter Kit*, Barbara Weiss, Berlin (2021); *Bronzed from Silver*, *Sans titre* (2016), Paris (2021); *Cuerpos*, Lodos, Mexico City (2020).

Exhibited Works

*Bumpkin, 2023*

Acrylic, foam, marble, belt, snap dome reel on linen  
85 x 210 cm

*False Braid, 2023*

Acrylic on synthetic leather  
130 x 170 cm

*Work Sample, 2023*

Metal, CD case, inkjet print, disc, video  
00:15:00 min  
30 x 30 x 5 cm

*Crossroad Metaphor, 2023*

Acrylic, medium, metal, inkjet print on canvas  
40 x 30 cm

*Harsh Instruction, 2023*

Acrylic, medium, metal, inkjet print on canvas  
40 x 34 cm

*Suited Approach, 2023*

Acrylic, medium, metal, inkjet print on canvas  
42 x 30 cm

*Stoop, 2023*

Foam, metal, drywall, ashtray  
Dimensions variable