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For Release: Immediately

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

David Barnett

January 22 - February 23, 2019



Ship of Fools, Mixed media construction (mechanical), 27.75 x 22.75 x 12.5"

George Billis Gallery is pleased to announce David Barnett and his latest work at the New York location. This exhibition will run from **January 22** through **February 23, 2019**. The opening reception will be held at the **George Billis Gallery** located at 525 West 26th Street between 10th and 11th avenues on Thursday, **January 24 from 6-8pm**.

Combining found elements with those fashioned by my own hand, my work encompasses two- and three-dimensional collage as well as sculptural objects. Infused with a rich sense of history, the essence of my work lies in the age-old struggle between nature and the man-made industrial world. My challenge is to convey that sense of conflict in a way that resonates with the viewer. I incorporate Victorian era botanical imagery, ancient anatomical

diagrams, and vintage mechanical components along with natural materials. Whether it's a rusty piece of metal, branches from an oak tree, or tiny turquoise-tipped rooster feathers, the right juxtaposition reveals itself to me—the more absurd, the better. A character is born and a narrative begins to unravel. The theme of flight is recurrent, as is the conflation of anatomy and mechanics. The result is a menagerie of ethereal winged creatures, human and animal hybrids, and fanciful flying machines. In this era of mass-production and instant gratification, it's my hope that these intimate and meticulously crafted works will also evoke a sense of rarity, delight, and mystery.

The George Billis Gallery marks its 22nd year in the Chelsea Art district and its sister gallery is located in the burgeoning gallery district of Culver City in Los Angeles. For more information, please contact the gallery via e-mail at gallery@georgebillis.com or visit our website at www.georgebillis.com.



Happy Valley, Collage on paper, 22.75 x 26"

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