

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

Alejandro Mazón

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For Release: Immediately

May 27 - June 21, 2014



Alejandro Mazón, In The Company Of Tramps, mixed media, 31x31”

Cuban artist Alejandro Mazón will showcase his fifth solo show at the George Billis Gallery, **May 27 – June 21, 2014**. The opening reception will be held at the gallery on **Thursday, May 29, from 6-8 p.m.** The George Billis Gallery recently moved to 525 West 26 Street, Ground Floor, between 10 and 11 Avenues in the Chelsea Art District. Gallery hours are **Tuesday - Saturday, 10-6 p.m.**

I'm Cuban by birth, Spanish by blood and American by choice. Since my career began in 1990, my artistic vocabulary has centered on the exploration of these identities. Like many Cuban-American artists of my generation, I have used the feelings of exile, memory, alienation, assimilation, rebirth, triumph and reintegration as the foundations of my work.

From the beginning I have intentionally denied artistic originality, by appropriating images from the old masters, Goya, Velázquez, Bosch, and Ingres to name a few. The aim was to establish a dialog between them and I, and to experiment with the tensions between artists at opposite ends of a spectrum and considerable spans of time. Ironically over the years, my very denial of artistic originality, and my appropriations of images has produced an extensive body of work which is not only original, but has often been referred to as “Mazonesque.” It is a body of work that finds a precarious balance between the personal, and the universal while firmly standing somewhere between modernism and classicism

Exploring the variable presence (or absence) of memory has always played an important part in my creative process. When I work with vintage papers and found objects, I am using the discarded memories of American lives to explore my own life in a country that I have chosen to live in, and I have often struggled to make my own.



Alejandro Mazón, Burning Orphanage, mixed media, 29x59x3.5”

The George Billis Gallery marks its 18th year in the Chelsea Art District and its sister gallery is located in the gallery district of Culver City in Los Angeles. Please contact the gallery via email at gALLERY@GEORGEBILLIS.COM or through our website at [www.georgebillis.com](http://WWW.GEORGEBILLIS.COM).

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