

MUCCIACCIA GALLERY
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PROJECT

PRESS RELEASE



MUCCIACCIA GALLERY
presents the exhibition

PRIEST / Manufacture

Opening: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – 6 pm

Mucciaccia Gallery Project
Roma, via Laurina 31

On view at Mucciaccia Gallery Project **fifteen new works** by artist PRIEST. The exhibition "Manufacture" will run from **October 16 to November 30, 2024**.

PRIEST is a London based Contemporary pop artist from New Zealand, working across painting and installation. His satirical style contrasts playful and innocent imagery with dark, subversive subject matters.

MUCCIACCIA GALLERY PROJECT
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His compositions are bright and colorful, combining nostalgic cartoons, video games and street art in a tongue-in-cheek critique of capitalism and corporate culture. Toys also feature heavily in PRIEST's practice, the word doubling as a derogatory term for inexperienced painters in the graffiti scene while emphasizing the element of play that's central to his approach.

"My shift from graffiti to the fine art world wasn't exactly a natural evolution; it was far more chaotic and unplanned. Back in 2010, I started painting graffiti illegally in New Zealand. Fast forward to 2019, and I found myself offered an exhibition in a small gallery in Melbourne with my first solo show, *Toys*. The show explored corporate greed, childhood nostalgia, the general absurdity of adulthood, and dark humor. Today I find myself still deeply exploring the same themes, I was unaware that my first show would define my art style so quickly. This current body of paintings is deeply focused on finding balance in the elements used to define my work" – PRIEST.

Recent solo exhibitions includes "The Capitalization of Graffiti", Ca' di Dio, Venice (2024); "Trapped in a Cell!", Mucciaccia Gallery, London (2024); "The Madness of the PRIEST-VERSE", MEMORABILANDIA, Milan (2023) and "PRESS START", BEYOND THE STREETS, Los Angeles (2023). Among the most recent group exhibitions: "POST GRAFFITI", Southampton Arts Center, New York (2024); "United Intermural Artists", 21 Gallery, Treviso (2023); "Beyond the Streets", Saatchi Gallery, London (2023).

The artist will be present at the opening. An exhibition catalogue has been produced for the occasion, with essays by Luca Borriello, Cesare Biasini Selvaggi, and Edoardo Falcioni.

INFORMATION:

Exhibition: PRIEST | Manufacture

Venue: Mucciaccia Gallery Project, Rome, via Laurina 31

Opening: Tuesday 15 October 2024, 6 pm

Open to the public: October 16 - November 30, 2024

Opening hours: Monday - Friday, 10.30 am – 7 pm; Saturday 11 am – 7 pm; Sunday closed

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