

CINDY LISICA

GALLERY

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PURE EVIL: STEEL SHARPENS STEEL

Exhibition Dates: June 29th - September 1st, 2018

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11AM- 5PM

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, June 29th, 6-8:30PM

PURE EVIL DRAWING CLUB: Saturday, June 30th, 11AM

for the kids, and the kid in you - all ages welcome!



Charles Uzzell Edwards a.k.a. PURE EVIL
Picasso - El Toro, 2018
Stencil spray paint on canvas, 30 x 30 inches

Cindy Lisica Gallery is pleased to present the 2018 Houston solo exhibition of internationally-acclaimed artist Charles Uzzell Edwards a.k.a. PURE EVIL. His celebrated portrait-based artwork investigates identities in both politics and Hollywood, such as Jackie O, Liz Taylor, Elvis, and Picasso, to name a few of his fascinating subjects. The success of his *Nightmare* series of dripping celebrity portraits has taken him around the world, and he has recently had remarkable shows in the museums and galleries of major cities across the USA and UK, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, France, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Brazil, and even Mongolia. PURE EVIL was featured prominently in the 2016 *Pop Presence* exhibition at Cindy Lisica Gallery, alongside works by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and Tom Wesselmann. This next exhibition, *Steel Sharpens Steel*, will take over the entire gallery space with paintings and hand-finished steel signs personally sourced from the artist's many travels. PURE EVIL continues to produce stunning canvases and works on paper, metal and wood, clearly taking his place in the world of Pop and Postmodern Art.



Charles Uzzell Edwards a.k.a. PURE EVIL (b. 1968) grew up in Wales and was by his own account the only new romantic in the village. He is the son of Welsh painter John Uzzell Edwards (1934-2014), and he spent his teenage years customizing his clothes and experimenting with eyeliner. This love of urban street style led him to a fashion degree in London (where he also earned a bit of a reputation as a troublemaker). After the Poll Tax Riots in Trafalgar Square, Charles decided to leave Thatcherite London for a two-week pursuit of skateboarding in California, which turned into a 10-year stay in San Francisco. He became a

designer for the streetwear line ANARCHIC ADJUSTMENT and immersed himself in what seemed to be a British invasion of artists, musicians and DJs on the West Coast. Charles started to notice the character and artwork of graffiti artists such as TWIST and REMINISCE, and, on his return to London in 2000, he hit the ground running. After a stint working at Banksy's SANTA'S GHETTO, he started stenciling and spraying his signature fanged bunny tag (a character borne of his sense of guilt after he shot and killed a rabbit in the countryside when he was 10 years old). In 2007, the artist opened Pure Evil Gallery in Shoreditch and six years later opened the second, larger gallery space two doors down. Charles currently lives near London and continues to run his galleries as an incubator for up and coming street artists and as the studio for his own PURE EVIL artwork.