

Stas Orlovski

From Left to Right, Top to Bottom:

Running Man (Nocturne) / Uomo che corre (Notturmo), 2019
Found object with stop-motion animation, edition of 2

Table with Figures / Tavolo con figure, 2017
oil, crayon, Xerox transfer and monoprint on paper on canvas

Curtain with Crowd / Sipario con folla, 2017
oil, crayon, charcoal and Xerox transfer on paper on canvas

All artworks courtesy of the artist and Traywick Contemporary.

Artist's Statement of Work:

Over the past few years Orlovski's work has become decidedly more autobiographical, referencing Russian children's books, Soviet era animation, Malevich's Suprematism, and Hans Richter's experimental films. The imagery draws heavily on his own childhood, by combining memories, dreams, incidents and events. Themes of loss, memory, exile and migration are expressed with a sense of absurdity, humor and tenderness to reflect on the state of our contemporary culture and politics.

The works in *LA Biblioteca* are centered on an appropriated image of a running figure from one of Orlovski's Soviet children's books titled, *Gelsomino in the Country of Liars*. The book was written by Italian author Gianni Rodari and translated into Russian in the late 60s. The story is about a boy who is born with an extremely loud voice causing things around him to break each time he speaks above a whisper. As an outcast he wanders into a "Land of Liars" where it is against the law to speak the truth.

Running Man (Nocturne) is part of a group of works consisting of found objects paired with hand-drawn, projected, stop-motion animations. Collected at various antique shows, flea markets and thrift shops, these objects reference motifs that he has been using in his work for many years. The found objects are activated by animations that are projected onto and into the items transforming them into dream-like objects. Projection in these works is at once material and metaphorical, physical and psychological.



A series of related paintings depicts running figures in a variety of spaces: under tables, in the mountains and behind curtains.

Biography:

Stas Orlovski is a Los Angeles based artist whose work includes painting, drawing and time-based media. Orlovski was born in Kishinev, Moldova in 1969. When he was a child, his family fled the Soviet Union to Tel Aviv, then Paris, to eventually settle in Toronto, Canada. Orlovski studied art in Toronto and Los Angeles, receiving a BFA from York University, a B.Ed from the University of Toronto and an MFA from the University of Southern California. Orlovski has exhibited widely throughout the U.S. with solo shows in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago and San Francisco. His work has been included in museum exhibitions at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Pomona College Museum of Art, Long Beach Museum of Art, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Weatherspoon Museum of Art and the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco among others. His work is represented in the following public and corporate collections: the American Embassy in Belgium, Davis Art Museum, Chevron Corporation, Crocker Art Museum, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Palm Springs Art Museum, Phoenix Art Museum, Progressive Art Collection, Samella Lewis Collection of Contemporary Art at Scripps College, Vincent Price Art Museum and the West Collection.

