

## ***Pushing Up Daisies***

A solo exhibition of new works by Michael Reeder  
Opening November 10 at Allouche Gallery (77 Mercer St.) from 6-9 PM

**Exhibition statement:** Keith Estiler

On November 10, Allouche Gallery in New York will present a new solo exhibition entitled *Pushing Up Daisies* that will feature never before seen works by the internationally-known American artist, Michael Reeder. The body of work zeroes in on the duality of life and death as well as what lies beyond.

The artist's recurring motif of a human skull is ever present in the collection of works as Reeder imagines the form in distinct compositions to connote the presence of death and life that once harbored the bony vessels. One painting entitled *Blurred Lines II* portrays a realistic-painted skull with obscure details inside a pill-shaped silhouette that contrasts its warm magenta background. Another work titled *Here Lies Man*, features a skull figure laying on the ground beside daisies to reinforce the show's theme.



'Blurred Lines II' 2022

When it comes to the theme of life and death, Reeder expressed that “Both are undeniably opposite, with one unable to exist without the other.” Having added that “As a byproduct of

their innate interconnection, the looming presence of death pushes many of us to live our best lives, knowing that our days here on Earth are limited. Life as we know it is finite; even believing in an afterlife does not negate that reality. I find this consideration both beautiful and eerie, and my work seeks to harness and portray that notion of duality.”

When looked at as a whole, the body of work features striking differences from one piece to the other. Variations of figures in these pieces were sourced from the artist’s recent *Cyber Bandits* generative NFT project which translated the artist’s physical painting style over to the generative pfp metaverse. An element of interchangeability has been profoundly observed in the artist’s practice for years as he borrows imagery from one painting and injects it in another piece.

“The NFT project utilized digitally and physically rendered traits fed through a computer generator to create 5,000 unique characters called the *Cyber Bandits*,” said Reeder. “This collaboration between artist and computer pushed the imagery well beyond my internal stylistic biases and produced a diverse range of brand-new character variations.”



‘Here Lies Man’ 2022

*Pushing Up Daisies* will feature the artist’s first physically painted generative *Cyber Bandit*, specifically numbered 1220. Six other works in the exhibition will also include painted background layers that were scanned and directly used as traits in the artist’s NFT project. “Blurring the lines between digital and physical art has been a focus for me all year, and I’m excited to bring it all full circle with *Pushing Up Daisies*,” he said.

*Pushing Up Daisies* will run from November 10 until December 12, 2022 at Allouche Gallery in New York City.

### **About Michael Reeder**

Michael Reeder is an Urban Contemporary artist from Dallas, TX. His practice involves the usage of various mediums and techniques not commonly combined in traditional painting. In addition, his work frequently extends beyond the gallery setting and onto large exterior walls. Reeder's extensive fine art studies, graphic design background, and early graffiti influence combine to form the style we are familiar with today. Reeder's work commands attention through a bold mashup of color, graphic geometric patterns, and realism. His figurative work is heavy, saturated with bright, eye-popping color and imagery greatly influenced by the subjects of identity and human's inevitable mortality. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally and in numerous printed publications, including features in *New American Paintings*, *Le Petit Voyeur*, and *HiFructose Magazine*. Michael has also participated in multiple brand collaborations, including Santa Cruz Skateboards, New Balance, and Specialized Bicycles.

### **About Allouche Gallery**

Established in 2014, Allouche Gallery is home to an international roster of some of the world's most recognized and culturally significant contemporary visual artists. Through its highly curated exhibition program, the gallery has garnered a reputation for highlighting artists – whose work directly challenges preconceived notions of contemporary visual culture – and affirming their place in 21st Century art. Home to a select group of both established and rising artists across a variety of disciplines, Allouche Gallery represents the work of Felix R. Cid, Ron English, Nick Georgiou, Paul Insect, Rafa Macarron, Reinoud Oudshoorn, Michael Reeder, Malik Roberts, Stickymonger, Swoon, Hannah Yata, and UFO907. Founded by Eric Allouche, Allouche Gallery is one of New York's premiere commercial art galleries and the preeminent exhibitor of contemporary art.

For more information about the upcoming show at Allouche Gallery, please visit [www.allouchegallery.com](http://www.allouchegallery.com)

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