

ROSAMUND FELSEN GALLERY

# STEVEN HULL: *BALCONY*

SEPT 3 - OCT 12, 2013 | RECEPTION: SAT, SEPT 7, 5-7 PM



Grant Mudford

**Steven Hull** has long been a multi-faceted practitioner and curatorial figure in art, active in both Northern and Southern California. His diverse interests and methods have led him to undertake a varied range of projects, which at times have included long-term collaborative efforts with other artists, musicians, and writers resulting in ambitious traveling shows and exhibition catalogues. These efforts are further exemplified by the Los Angeles project space Hull founded, **Las Cienegas Projects**, which has a curatorial program emphasizing experimentation and communal involvement. This dynamic approach and stylistic diversity come through in Hull's latest body of work. Hull continues to explore in the various ways that painting and sculpture overlap, where a flat image can appear to be dimensional, and a sculptural piece can feel image-based. By extension, we are led to consider the ways that our notions of these delineations are contingent, where received logic can be broken down by simple contextual shifts.

For his 10th exhibition at **Rosamund Felsen Gallery**, Hull continues his interests in moving sculpture, once again setting pieces in motion by mounting objects to train engines which interact

# ROSAMUND FELSEN GALLERY

with the surrounding paintings. This engine is activating a cart filled with hanging bells in a circle, adding an acoustic sound element to the show. Although, this exhibition is largely focused around painting and the stacking of abstract painted and shaped canvases, sound is also very crucial to the viewers experience.

An exciting new addition to Hull's practice is the use of marionettes. He has collaborated with the famous Bob Baker Marionette Theater of Downtown Los Angeles. Some of Hull's work will feature puppets from their extensive archive interacting with the paintings and sculptures. This pairing of marionettes and painting conflates ideas of painting, art, backdrop, theater, gallery and props. There will also be a special marionette show by puppeteer Alex Evans featuring Bob Baker's Marionettes at the exhibition's opening.

On September 28<sup>th</sup> Hull will be participating in Glow in Santa Monica. He will create a rotating stage featuring a marionette show based on the short story "A Fragment from the Lives of the Conquistadors" by Tony White. The stage will display Hull's sculptures of Conquistadors whose hands detach and become animated marionettes. There will be several performances throughout the night featuring puppeteer Alex Evans, Eric de la Cruz and their marionettes with music by Anna Huff and Tanya Haden. The entire sculpture will be accompanied by a light work by Marilyn Lowey and a sound piece by Gibby Haynes. An illustrated story book by Tami Demaree will be produced to commemorate for the event.

Steven Hull received a BFA and MFA from CalArts; he has exhibited in the U.S. and internationally. He is the founder and co-director of Las Cienegas Projects in Los Angeles and lives and works in Oakland and Los Angeles.