

M o v i e s, B o o k s, S h o w s

Jeff Myers: The Nature of Droids and Machines

The Alex Bult Gallery welcomes back artist Jeff Myers in a solo exhibition of new works entitled "The Nature of Droids and Machines." The exhibition, which is dedicated to Myers' father Tom Myers who passed away this past April, represents a culmination of a journey that began with "The Land Series," a few years back. The framework then as now is the relationship between land, technology and humans. According to Myers, where "The Land Series" explored contrasts, relationships and separation, last year's exhibition "The Secret Life of Machines," progressed to re-integration, inclusion and inter-relationship of the thematic elements. The new work seeks to examine the consciousness of each of its subjects. The exhibition will be on display November 6 – December 6, 2014. The Alex Bult Gallery is located in midtown Sacramento at 1114 21st Street, Suite B. The gallery hours are 11.m to 6pm, Tuesday through Saturday. (916) 476-5540. <http://alexbultgallery.com/exhibitions/upcoming/>

Jeff Myers

"I started painting farming artifacts nine years ago while, ironically, living in Brooklyn, New York. At the time I was already involved in a large project, a series of portraits of people in their personal workspaces, from unseen critical role players to Polly Mellen and Donna Karan. All simultaneously holding positions in both the art and fashion worlds. From time to time, I would visit Sacramento and began to paint outdoors in the delta. During the sessions that followed, I became increasing aware of these agricultural machines.

They seemed like sculptural sentinels dotting the landscape, like a David Smith. One day on the delta I started to paint the form of the tractor itself. The tractor manifested a powerful intimacy that suggested "many secrets" especially the older ones richly draped in rust and chipped paint. They resonated a type of insistence that indicated a kind of consciousness at work.

Another starting point for this body of work came from one of the primary visual emphases of my work, the combining of two different environments. Upon returning to the city I was haunted by the agricultural lines and crop patterns of the Central Valley. The rows of floors on the skin of a skyscraper seemed to echo the patch work grid of an orchard.

Another interesting contradiction was the frenetic mental pace in response to the amount of digital input we experience in our modern lives compared to the quiet stillness and big dominating skies of farmland. I knew right off this was an area that was ripe with visual possibilities that could provide a range of work.

There are several canvases in this exhibition that take the central form, either of a tractor or a human body that are overlaid with agricultural patterns. By eliminating the space between the object and its environment, a type of inter being quality arises. This is a line of inquiry that I have been working on for some time in sketchbooks and through large photographic prints entitled the "Bodyen Series". It is rewarding to see this visual concept surface in the paintings.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to create these paintings of rural and urban environments. At the core of this body of work is "intimacy." The way it manifests in how we inhabit rural and urban environments and to celebrate visually the interconnectedness of land and city." *By Jeff Myers*



Jeff Myers Alex Bult Gallery

Exhibition Dates: Nov 6 – Dec 6, 2014, 1114 21st Street, Suite B Sacramento, CA 95811
Tel: 916-476-5540
Hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 11am–6pm.

Interstellar

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...humanity needs to find a new world to survive as a species. A mysterious wormhole appears, is explored by scientists, and offers other worldly opportunities in galaxies far far away.

Humanity's good, bad, and the ugly emotions create problems throughout the movie, and ultimately our hero through an act of love, bravely saves the hero, Amelia, before being sucked into a Black Hole with all the answers to save humanity.

Unbelievably, the Black Hole allows our hero, Cooper, to communicate through time with his grown-up, super scientist daughter Murphy (Mackenzie Foy as a woman) who figures everything out on a "Big Bang Theory" chalkboard and ultimately saves all of humanity.

Of course, there is more to the story than the extremely simplified version above. I didn't incorporate the massive amounts of action and adventure, nor did I include how director Christopher Nolan forced his characters to grapple with their humanity throughout the movie.

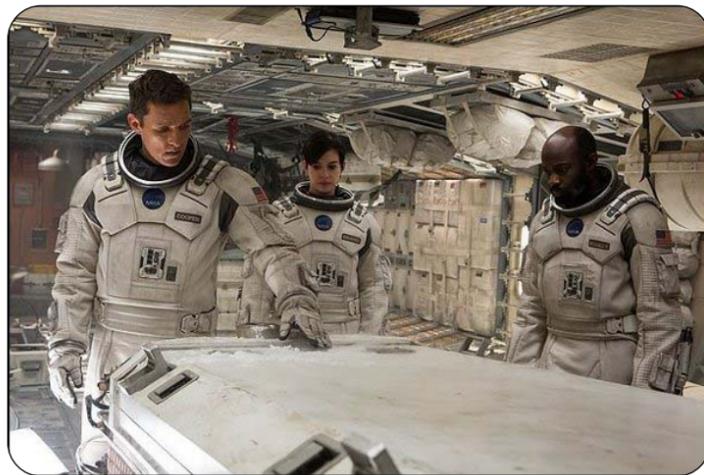
That constant yank back to the familiarity of human emotions is not unlike a shoestring pulling and holding the theoretical and imaginative universe into an emotionally exciting tale that will stand the test of time on retail movie shelves.

I will admit rating "Interstellar" was a bit difficult... as an entertaining action fantasy adventure movie, it rated high; as a science geek, it rated somewhere in the middle; for plot, somewhere between middle and high; it's soap-opera-reality-TV-teary-snifflesness, rated high; believability, in the beginning high, in the end low; and in comparison to other epic science fiction feature films over the years, probably middle to high.

Placerville Main Library

Funds for new books and other vital materials continue to dwindle. In the face of this dilemma, the Friends of the Library–Placerville Chapter has launched a "Fill Our Shelves" campaign to raise much-needed funding from the community.

Placerville Main Library receives no specific direct tax support and relies on the County General Fund to provide services. A donation of \$250 goes toward "sponsoring" a shelf in the New Book Nook or Children's Library area for at least a year, with placement of a metal plate with the donor's name on the shelf. \$100 donation will purchase 4 new books with the donor's name inside each one. Other tax-deductible, monetary donations welcome. Information at www.eldoradolibrary.org



"Interstellar" star Mathew McConaughey (L) as Cooper. *Courtesy Photo*

So, with a zero (0) equaling a request for your ad-mission money back, and ten (10) being the ultimate must see movie of the year, I am rating this exhilaratingly well done, superbly directed, and excellently performed space fantasy adventure, "Interstellar" a solid seven (7).

"Interstellar" is currently showing at the Esquire IMAX Theater located at 1211 K Street in Sacramento. The ambience is pleasant, the sound enveloping, and the new reclining seats are roomy and comfortable, each with unobstructed views of the immense IMAX screen. Please call to confirm show times and to select your seat (yes, you CAN select your seat; it's not a first come, long-line wait, battle-for-good-seats type theater). Remember, the IMAX typically receives blockbuster movies the day before national "regular" theater openings. There are also several fine restaurants within walking distance for prior/after movie enjoyment.

To see what movies are upcoming at the Esquire IMAX Theater or to learn about what other activities are offered, visit them at www.imax.com/sacramento Several fine restaurants are within walking distance from the IMAX Theater for prior or after-movie enjoyment. Movie-goers may bring the parking stub from the Capitol Garage, L & 10th Streets, to a theatre host or the Box Office Monday through Friday after 5pm, and all weekend long, for free validated parking (not valid on \$5 pre-pay parking events). You can also 'like' Esquire IMAX Theatre on Facebook, or follow on Twitter.

For more information about the Esquire IMAX, upcoming movies, services offered or to purchase tickets, visit online at www.imax.com/oo/esquire-imax or call (916) 443-4629. Enjoy the IMAX experience soon at the Esquire IMAX Theatre, located at 1211 K Street, Sacramento, CA. To book the theater for birthday parties, field trips, e-mail aatilano@imax.com or call 916-446-2333 x200. For events, fundraisers, or private show screenings, please e-mail wrussell@imax.com or phone 916-446-2333 x201.

IMAX, an innovator in entertainment technology, combines proprietary software, architecture and equipment to create experiences that take you beyond the edge of your seat to a world you've never imagined. Top filmmakers and studios are utilizing IMAX theatres to connect with audiences in extraordinary ways, and, as such, IMAX's network is among the most important and successful theatrical distribution platforms for major event films around the globe.

Larry Faddis
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