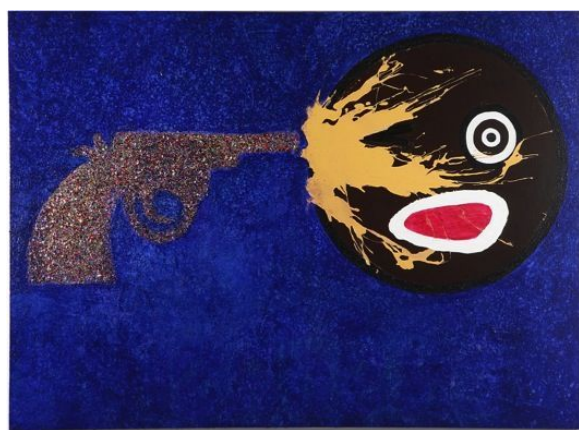


# Tradition and Interpretation

Works by Jeffrey Kent and Stephen Towns



Exhibition on view June 13th-July 9th

Platform Gallery is pleased to present "Tradition and Interpretation" which explores the works of artists Jeffrey Kent and Stephen Towns to expand on the idea that each generation creates their own set of values and beliefs based on time. Towns fosters his own set of icons from recycled material to embark on the idea of creating something from nothing. The subjects that he chooses are people that inspire a sense of spirituality within him. Embellishment and gilding look back to original iconography in his paintings. Similarly working with traditions being passed down, Jeffrey Kent's work explores the lessons he wishes to take with him in his life as an adult. His work questions the message that authoritative figures present, while working with mixed media, text, collage and glitter. In addition to their individual processes, Stephen Towns and Jeffrey Kent have both been inspired by their identity as African American artists in Baltimore.

Jeffrey Kent, Baltimore-based artist, received his MFA from the Hoffberger School of Painting at MICA and is an EDS alumnus. He is the founder of Sub-Basement Artist Studios, an alternative 12,000 square foot underground artist studio and gallery space located in downtown Baltimore, which was named "Best Gallery" by the Baltimore City Paper in 2005, which also later named Kent "Best Visual Artist" in 2008.

Stephen Towns is a Baltimore-based artist from South Carolina. He received his BFA from McMasters College at the University of South Carolina in 2004, and since received much recognition throughout the Northeast. Towns was recently shown in the Station North Arts Café and Gallery 788.