

ZUECCA  
PROJECT  
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presents

## Slater B. Bradley : The Secret Key

11.11.16. – 11.01.17

at Zuecca Project Space, Guidecca, 33 Venezia

Exhibition Opening: 11.11.16 at 7 PM

Happenings – Performances – Workshops: 11.11 – 13.11



Slater B. Bradley

*Ninth Wave Solar Shield*, 2016, e750 paint marker on digital C-print, Mounted to 4mm Alu-Dibond, Glass UV 92, Oak, Unique, Panel: 179.6 x 111 cm, Frame: 215.2 x 133 cm



*The Secret Key*, opening on 11.11.16, is a collaboration between the Berlin based American artist Slater B. Bradley and Alessandro Possati, curator of Zuecca Projects, Venice, Italy. The exhibition will focus on Bradley's current "Shield" series and host a three-day program of consciousness workshops, happenings and performances evolving around the notion of expansion of spirit and mind within the physical and material. Zuecca Projects aims to expand the scale of the exhibition during the 57th Venice Biennale in May 2017.

As a departure point for *The Secret Key* – an experience based project – Bradley refers to the end of the Mayan Calendar on 21.12.12. The work makes an enquiry into the shift in the nature of human consciousness and spirituality within art in today's transformative period of uncertainty, lack of belief, and overabundance of images and information.

Bradley's work came to international attention through such shows as his solo exhibition at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2005) or his participation in the Whitney Biennial, New York (2004). Since 2015, he has created a new series of abstract works oscillating between paintings and photographic images shot by the artist called "Shields". Bradley incorporates the logic of picture making and photographic narratives as a conceptual backbone to impose an intuitive mark-making-technique across the picture plane field.

For *The Secret Key*, the artist has created a set of three "Shields" in gold, black, and silver permanent marker. Eroded narratives incorporate the 12 stages of Joseph Campbell's Monomyth and the Hero's Journey, echoing themes Bradley explored earlier through his shadow work in the "Doppelganger" (1999-2012) series. The artist has added focus on the spiritual dimension to the work – including the realms of Shamanism, as for Bradley: "The 'Shields' are sized in the Golden Ratio and playing with numerological codes and patterns. They are in harmony with the frequency of Natural Law and Source and 'offer' spiritual protection".

In Bradley's work the iconic and hero-figure in itself have evolved from tragic to epic, blending popular culture and the mass media with the realm of spirituality and consciousness.

### Biography

Slater B. Bradley, born in San Francisco, California in 1975, currently living and working in Berlin, Germany. His work has been the subject of numerous solo museum exhibitions including The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2005), UC Berkeley Contemporary Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, California (2005), Contemporary Art Museum, St Louis, Missouri (2007), De Hallen Haarlem, Haarlem, The Netherlands (2009), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2010), Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado (2011), and the Johnson Museum of Art, Ithaca, New York (2013). Recent group exhibitions include *Dreaming Mirrors | Dreaming Screens*, Sprüth Magers Berlin (2016), *Like a Rolling Stone*, Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Vancouver, Canada (2016). Upcoming exhibitions include *Person of the Crowd: The Contemporary Art of Flanerie* at the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2017), and *Michael Jackson: On The Wall*, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK (2018). Moreover his film-based work of the early 2000s will be presented within *Cinema Dynamo* at the Centre D' Art Contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland (2017).

Artwork © Slater B. Bradley

Courtesy Slater Bradley Studio, Berlin, Germany and Galeria Filomena Soares, Lisbon, Portugal

For press inquiries and / or further information, including the performance program please contact Zuecca Projects at [info@zueccaprojectspace.com](mailto:info@zueccaprojectspace.com)