

# PHILIP CRAWFORD

b 1988 USA. Lives and works in Berlin.

#### VITA

### **Education**

M.A. North American History and Culture, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin Germany (current)

B.A. History, Stanford University, Stanford CA USA

History of Art, Oxford University, Oxford UK (tutorial: the political influence of artistic movements)

### Solo Exhibitions

2018 My Noose Around That Pretty's Neck, University of Cologne, Cologne Germany

Stop!Cop!, Retramp Gallery, Berlin Germany

Heroism and the Heroic in American History, Akademie Für Politische Bildung, Tutzing Germany

2016 To Die In Your Arms, Brix, Prague Czech Republic

No Heroism In Love, Zizkovsiska Gallery, Prague Czech Republic

### Group Exhibitions (selected)

2018 Advent Special, Fine Art Berlin, Berlin Germany

2018 Textualised, Berlin Blue Art Gallery, Berlin Germany

2018 The New South III, Kai Lin Gallery, Atlanta USA

2018 Pleasure and Pain, Schau Fenster, Berlin Germany

2017 vom Speck weg, Galerie Isabelle Gabrijel, Berlin Germany

2017 49 Contemporary Artists, Enter Art Foundation, Berlin Germany

2017 Visual Science of Art Conference, ACUD Gallery, Berlin Germany

#### Residencies and Honors

2018 Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) Residency Program, Truth and Reconciliation

2018 1st Place Award, The New South III, Kai Lin Gallery□

#### Collections

Enter Art Collection, Berlin Germany Private Collection, San Francisco CA USA Private Collection, Atlanta GA USA

# ARTIST STATEMENT

One of the organizing elements of my artistic practice is the concept of heroism. The hero serves as a narrative embodiment for an individual or community; it is both an iconic reflection of closely-held values and a representation of history and self-defined purpose. The heroic provides a unique way to access processes of myth-making and identity formation. Through my practice, I explore socio-historical conceptions of the heroic and its capacity to foment rhetorics of difference under divisive fictions and mask technologies of power behind myth. The Superheroic tales--stories of exceptional humanity, morality, and ability--like those found in comic books and memoirs (also movies, video games and self-help books) hold particular interest. While the images and stories themselves are important resources, so are the histories of the creators, media companies and



audiences that produced them. Narratives constructed in these stories often have identifiable similarities with the communities that created them. \(\preceit\) Throughout my work there is an attempt at what historian Saidiya Hartman calls critical fabulation. Heroic surrogacy and fantasy embodiment become key frameworks in this effort. By including visualizations of heroic and superheroic narratives from popular media alongside references to the pleasures and pains of everyday life, I attempt to combine fictions, critically binding the personal, institutional, historical and popular fabulations that instruct the stories we tell ourselves about ourselves.

### Website:

www.philipac.com