



For Immediate Release

Samuel Owen Gallery
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Gallery Hours:

Monday – Saturday 10:30am – 6pm
Sunday 11:00am – 3:00pm

Samuel Owen Gallery is pleased to announce our upcoming exhibition of artwork by Shepard Fairey titled *OBEY*. The show opens with a reception on Thursday, October 3rd from 6 – 9pm.

Fairey, described by the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston as “one of the most influential street artists of our time,” combines elements of graffiti, Pop art, and classic poster art into his work. Fairey first gained recognition for his *Andre The Giant* sticker campaign, which was quickly embraced by the skater community, leading to Fairey’s enigmatic images showing up in cities across the U.S. and eventually worldwide. His popularity continued to grow from the viral nature of his work and its immediate impact on culture, including many major public murals. Fairey, along with fellow street artists Banksy and Space Invader, became art world celebrities, and their art moved swiftly from the streets to renowned auction houses. For his recent mural project in Dumbo, Brooklyn, Fairey stated, “It’s kind of an awesome irony that I’ve been arrested in New York multiple times and then I’m getting a city wall.”

In 2008, Fairey became more widely known when his *Hope* poster featuring Barack Obama reached icon status during the US presidential election. Fairey re-created this image for President Obama’s ‘Person of the Year’ cover of Time magazine in 2008, and his artwork was again featured on the cover in 2011. Fairey continues to promote a socially aware message, and, for this reason, he was recently named the keynote speaker of the SXSW (South by Southwest) ecological conference. Fairey’s work is in the collections of The Smithsonian, The National Portrait Gallery, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, amongst others.

This exhibition is comprised of exceptional works from private collections, including rarely seen pieces. Samuel Owen Gallery is thrilled to share the work of such an important artist with the Greenwich community.

(Please note, Shepard Fairey will not be present at the opening reception.)

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