

Mark Moore Gallery
5790 Washington Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232
T. 310.453.3031
F. 310.453.3831
www.markmooregallery.com
Tues – Sat, 11am – 6pm



Allison Schulnik *Hoof*

Opening Reception: January 9, 6-8pm
On View January 9– February 20, 2016

Mark Moore Gallery is proud to present "Hoof," the gallery's fourth solo show from Los Angeles based artist Allison Schulnik. Consisting of several new paintings and sculptures, "Hoof" will be her first showing of new work with the gallery in nearly four years. Expanding on her language that traditionally highlights misfits, outcasts, and the misunderstood – Schulnik introduces a wild new cast of mythological creatures replete with centaurettes, unicorns, and otherworldly outsiders in various stages of liberation. Continuing her exploration of selfhood through diverse and rich allegories, her new subjects radiate gracefulness that is both vulnerable and stoic—a type of synthesis that is a hallmark in Schulnik's work.

Not contented by cut and dry narratives that portray notions of empowerment, her characters are complex. Delving into the intricate web of sexuality, Schulnik takes a Henry Darger approach to Disney's "Fantasia"- with centaurettes reimagining strength and femininity, as well as humanity. In order to create an honest portrait of contemporary liberation, she provides her mythic beings with fear, angst, sadness, and even weakness. Glorious unicorns of questionable gender are imbued with an aura of disheveled majesty -- and a new type of hero emerges. Each protagonist is granted their individual physicality, strength, baggage, and personhood – as they also reflect the bewildering concepts of ego and identity. As fictional as these creatures may be, their personification of the untamed make us long for the best, unapologetic versions of our true selves.

Born in 1978 (San Diego, CA), Schulnik earned her BFA in Experimental Animation from the California Institute of the Arts, Valencia (CA). She has had solo exhibitions at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art (CT), Laguna Art Museum (CA), Oklahoma City Museum of Art (OK), Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art (KS), ZieherSmith Gallery (NY), Rokeby Gallery (London), Unosunove Arte Contemporanea (Rome), and Division Gallery (Montreal). In addition to her inclusion in prestigious film festivals around the world, her films have garnered multiple awards, including Best Experimental Animation at Ottawa International Animation Festival in 2014. Her work has also been shown at the Royal Scottish Academy of Art and Architecture (Scotland), Garage Center for Contemporary Culture (Moscow), Hammer Museum (CA), Los Angeles County Museum of Art (CA), Santa Barbara Museum of Art (CA), San Diego Museum of Art (CA), Contemporary Arts Museum (LA), German Institute for Animated Film (Germany), Canada (NY), Lehman Maupin (NY), The Hole (NY), Acme (CA), and Hangar-7 (Salzburg), among many others. Allison Schulnik's work is in the public collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (CA), Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art (KS), Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego (CA), Santa Barbara Art Museum (CA), Musée de Beaux Arts (Montreal), Farnsworth Art Museum (ME), Laguna Art Museum (CA), Montreal Contemporary Art Museum (Canada), Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art (CT), and Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Canada). The artist lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.