

3 artists to check out now in Culver City, Los Angeles

by ADAM MARS on OCTOBER 4, 2012

JUST A FEW YEARS AGO, the art galleries of Bergamot Station and Chinatown were all the rave, luring thousands of art admirers out of their caves for a quick dose of culture. These days it's the Downtown Art Walk, with its eclectic mix of lowbrow and middlebrow art, and Culver City, with more established middle- to highbrow art, that draw the huge crowds.

However, as I strolled the current epicenter of Los Angeles' art scene, I was left wondering if what the galleries around La Cienega are serving up is worth all the hype. Take away the free drinks, cigarette friendly environment, and the beautiful freaks, and maybe more people would stay home and view something truly free and entertaining, like porn.

I scoured the hipster haven hard and sifted through the rubbish. Here's what I found.



Tomokazu Matsuyama — Mark Moore Gallery

This project space featured a mix of paintings stuffed with technicolor gestures and wildly chaotic compositions. His playful use of Japanese iconography immediately triggered thoughts of LA fixtures like Gajin Fujita and Sush Machida Gaikotsu, who also create fresh incarnations of Japanese classics. But Matsuyama's work excels by allowing his painterly elements to reign supreme, pushing the historic referents far enough back to let your eyes party in the moment before your brain sends you back in time.

Exhibition dates: Sept 8 – Oct 27, 2012

Website: www.markmooregallery.com/

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