

Clayton Brothers: Open to the Public



In the Clayton Brothers' first solo exhibition since their wildly popular 2011 survey at the Pasadena Museum of California Art, Rob and Christian Clayton (is it still a solo show if there are two of them?) are set to mix things up a bit. OK, a lot. Their M.O. in recent years has been to combine their very different yet equally volatile styles of painting, drawing and collage into a blended, sweetly cacophonous aesthetic. In these works, people and creatures inhabit psychedelic and abstract environments, which are nevertheless quite refined, with no color or variety of mark making left behind. For "Clayton Brothers: Open to the Public," the boys are trying something new, or at least some new things. While employing the same frenetic energy and striking palette, these expressive portraits follow a single narrative: the story of a rather famous thrift store near their shared studio. (Hear more about it in a short film produced by the gallery: vimeo.com/101379203.) The portraits are less polished, more urgently rendered and pared down by comparison, and the show includes forays into the related mediums of assemblage, photography, video and installation work — setting the scene and evoking the personalities of the Sun Thrift denizens and the allure of random crap they covet. In the end, it's a story about America.

Mark Moore Gallery, 5790 Washington Blvd., Culver City; Sat., Aug. 16. 6-8 p.m.; free; exhibition continues Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m., through Sept. 27. (310) 453-3031, markmooregallery.com.

— Shana Nys Dambrot