

COREY HELFORD GALLERY

presents

HUSH

“Allure”

Opening Reception Saturday, May 28 from 7-11pm
(On View May 28 – July 2, 2016)



“Allure” acrylic paint, screen print, spray paint on linen, 55” x 55”

Los Angeles (May 6, 2016) — On **Saturday, May 28th**, **Corey Helford Gallery** proudly presents new works by internationally known street artist **HUSH**. His highly anticipated exhibition, entitled “**Allure**,” will be his second solo with the gallery.

HUSH, inspired by detritus, uses futuristic silvers and blacks clothed in a chaotic collage of colour to create a sensual blizzard of femininity, power and loss. Painted in grayscale, often with the eyes blacked out, **HUSH**'s female faces are dehumanized. By reducing them to shells of sexuality, he perfectly encapsulates the transient nature of modern life as well as the timeless forces of passion and desire. In what appears to be a luxurious and opulent tale, the hidden truth may reveal otherwise. **HUSH** lets us in, “Classical Sirens and Japanese Geishas, be prepared to be seduced and discarded like a piece of old flypaper.”

By action painting these faces from history, he achieves “pure expressionism”. The collage-effect backgrounds are screen-printed and hand-painted, then the graffiti elements added by hand in the action painting style, sometimes over many months. The final layer of colour replicates sheets of flyposters peeling from our city's walls whilst the Bravura use of aerosol on the portraits lends the pieces a futuristic sheen, echoing the seductive promise of technological fulfillment.

"Some people think my women are serene, others that they're dark. What is clear is the power of their sensuality", says **HUSH**. The portraits he paints are imposing and alluring, yet confrontational and unobtainable. The implication being that while the pleasures of modern life are fleeting, the succubus legend remains the most potent, rewarding, and perhaps destructive compulsion offered to man.



"Masquerade" acrylic paint, screen print, spray paint, ink & 24 carat gold foil on linen

HUSH's unique style is recognizable through its focus on the female form set within backgrounds filled with an expressionist's freedom of layering and color. The serene balance of traditional painting is combined with a messier passion, influenced by the Western traditions of action painting and graffiti, culminating in a harmony that feels surprisingly natural.

The artist's mark-making bears the distinct aesthetic of tagging, bringing the rough texture of street art into each piece. Swift gestural marks underlie splashes of paint, looping through lines and over bright combinations of color. With an in-depth technique that includes painting, screen printing and spray-painting, **HUSH** creates work that instantly draws the eye in and holds the viewer's focus. Patterns ranging from geometric repetition to florals that conjure up images of royal tapestries and delicately decorated vases are not solely confined to the background but often take shape, forming graceful fabrics. In some works these shapes appear solidly, while in others the central figures are only lightly delineated from the waves of pattern, body and background blending, as if they are sinking into the colorful composition itself.



"Blaze" acrylic paint, screen print, spray paint & ink on linen, 55" round

About HUSH:

Formally trained for five years at the Newcastle school of art and design, HUSH took to painting after years spent working as an art director in the Far East. His work translates directly from street to gallery; recent sold-out shows include "Fatales" in London, "Unseen" at Corey Helford Gallery and "Sirens" at Metro (Melbourne).

His collaborations include a range with Burton snowboards and he was featured in The Independent, the British online newspaper's 2008 list of "Twenty Up and Coming Artists." In 2016, HUSH was commissioned by the TAO GROUP to curate and make 8 large murals for VANDAL New York Lounge, which was featured in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal with high acclaim, as well as being featured on NBC's *The Blacklist*. HUSH was commissioned by the executive producer of the Starz hit mini-series *Flesh and Bone* to paint the mural that's prominently featured throughout the show, outside the main character Claire Robbins' Brooklyn apartment.

Born in 1976, HUSH resides and works from his hometown of Newcastle upon Tyne, northern England.

About Corey Helford Gallery:

Corey Helford Gallery (CHG) was established in 2006 by Jan Corey Helford and her husband, television producer and creator, Bruce Helford (Anger Management, The Drew Carey Show, George Lopez, The Oblongs). CHG represents a diverse collection of Contemporary artists influenced by today's pop culture, encompassing the genres of New Figurative, Pop Surreal, Graffiti and Street Art. Artists include Josh Agle (Shag), Ron English, D*Face, Chloe Early, Eine, Natalia Fabia, Hush, Liz McGrath, Richard J. Oliver, Herakut, Kukula, Sylvia Ji, Eric Joyner, Brandi Milne, Korin Faight, Mary Jane Ansell, Martin Wittfooth, Lori Nelson, Hannah Yata, Camilla d'Errico, Hikari Shimoda and more. Renowned for its notable exhibitions, the gallery has presented "Charity By Numbers," which was co-curated by Gary Baseman and featured an unprecedented lineup of artists including Mark Ryden, Marion Peck, Shepard Fairey, Todd and Kathy Schorr, Camille Rose Garcia, and Michael Hussar, as well as "La Noche de la Fusion," an epic Carnavalesque festival and solo exhibition for Pervasive artist Gary Baseman. In 2010, Corey Helford Gallery partnered with Bristol's City Museum & Art Gallery for the transatlantic collaboration "Art From The New World," a world-class United Kingdom museum exhibition showcasing work by a formidable group of 49 of the finest emerging and noted American artists.

After 9 years in Culver City, the gallery re-located in December 2015 to a robust 12,000 sq. ft. building in Downtown Los Angeles (571 South Anderson St.) where it continues to benefit the trend-setting exhibitions it hosts within the heart of the city's art community. The new location looms seven times larger than the original. Moreover, it boasts three separate galleries, each of which house individual artist and group exhibitions. The main gallery takes up 4,500 sq. ft., offering total immersion for attendees. CHG presents new exhibitions approximately every four weeks featuring music provided by DJ Chris Muckley from KCRW/SiriusXMU. For more info and an upcoming exhibition schedule, visit coreyhelfordgallery.com and connect on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

COREY HELFORD GALLERY

571 S. Anderson St. (Enter on Willow St)

Los Angeles, CA 90033

Tel. [310.287.2340](tel:310.287.2340)

Open Tuesday-Saturday, 12 Noon to 6pm