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BRAD GREENWOOD
Unauthorized Biographies

November 14 – January 4, 2014
Opening: Thursday, November 14, 6-8pm

Mixed Greens is thrilled to present Brad Greenwood's first solo exhibition with Mixed Greens. *Unauthorized Biographies* consists of a new series of paintings on panel that utilize figuration, abstraction, myth, and reality in equal parts.

For years, Greenwood has painted figures undergoing transformation. Whether they are personified animals (the wolf appears most frequently), shape shifters, or something more human, all of the characters exist on multiple physical and psychological planes. Energetic, thick brushstrokes, graphite, and washy paint hover above judiciously exposed wood grain, leaving the viewer unsure as to whether the narrative is emerging or being absorbed. On a deeper level, the characters exist in a liminal state between the past and present, literature, myth, and Greenwood's contemporary existence.

Personal narratives are integral to Greenwood's work. His love story, star charts, and his dedication to painting after years of working a dual role as arts administrator/painter all influence the content of his work. However, there is never a single, dominating narrative. Greenwood describes his paintings as scenes in a play with actors coming on and off the stage, drawing upon his personal story but also fed by his deep fondness of art history. While each character is uniquely his own, his figures often co-mingle with iconic likenesses from paintings by Matisse, Gainsborough, Hockney, Basquiat, and others. He blends fact and fiction to create new and unauthorized portraits. Ultimately, the pieces function as narratives of personal emotion complicated by a deep and energizing love of paint and the history of art.

Brad Greenwood is a New York City-based artist. After receiving his BA from Ursinus College in 1989, he returned to school in 1996 to study painting at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. From there, he went on to become MOMA's Development Manager, the Director of Development at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, and a Curator for HERE Arts Center, all in New York. Greenwood has shown in numerous group exhibitions in New York and Philadelphia. His most notable solo exhibition, Eat the Wolf, occurred in late 2012 at La MaMa La Galleria in New York City. Melissa Unger of Seymour Magazine interviewed him about his practice, and a publication of his work was released in conjunction with the exhibition Eat the Wolf. This is Greenwood's first solo exhibition in a commercial gallery.

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