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Art in Review

'Through a glass, darkly'

Postmasters

459 West 19th Street, Chelsea
Through May 5

The three young and talented satirists in this entertaining show share a playful interest in the instructional mode.

Jayson Musson is already art-world famous for "Art Thoughtz," his comical online videos in which he genially holds forth on contemporary art topics in the hip-hop guise of Hennessy Youngman. Wearing ridiculous trucker hats and bling and speaking in an urban patois, he unpacks arcane subjects like beauty, Relational Aesthetics and how to succeed as a black artist.

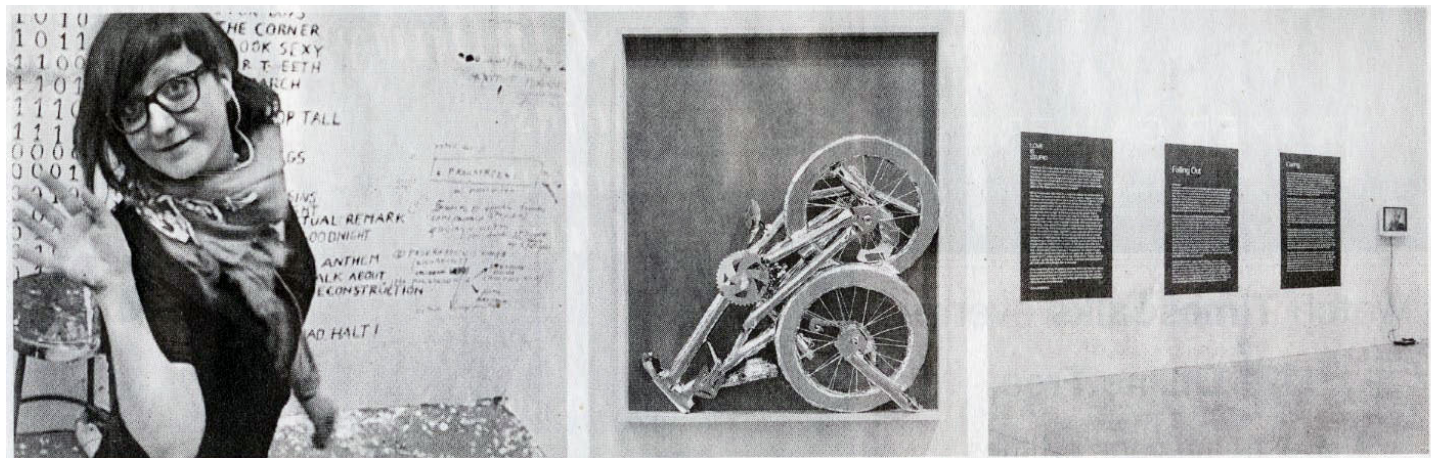
Ostensibly he addresses the uninitiated, but his explanations will probably be most appreciated by those in the know. One on view here is about performance art, which he defines as "a pre-Internet method of annoying groups of people using your body and voice working in conjunction in order to create a compelling spectacle that heightens said annoyance."

Oasa DuVerney makes videos in which she performs domestic services, like washing someone's kitchen floor with her hair. But she is best at drawing. A cartoon image of a pile of woolly quadrupeds made for an imaginary, encyclopedia-size tome about how to not be racist is captioned,

"When counting sheep at night, please be sure they aren't all white."

Blessed with a Silly Putty face, the Polish artist Julia Kul (now in New York on a Fulbright grant), creates funny feminist videos. In one, she lip-syncs the voices of "Worth Waiting For," a 1962 Mormon film made to teach chastity and the sanctity of marriage. Ms. Kul is charismatic enough for prime-time television.

KEN JOHNSON



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM POSTMASTERS GALLERY, NEW YORK

In "Through a glass, darkly," an exhibition of works by three young satirists at Postmasters gallery in Chelsea, from left: "Passport Reading," a single-channel video by Julia Kul; "Monument to the Failures of Gavin Cato," by Oasa DuVerney; and an installation view showing works by Jayson Musson.