



Photo credit: Stephen Joyce | stephenjoyce.com | artist, Branden Koch working in his studio, September 18, 2022

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5106 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

HEAVY LIGHT

Branden Koch

October 14 - December 15, 2022 | www.bunkerprojects.org/heavylight

For Immediate Release | September 30, 2022

Bunker Projects is thrilled to announce HEAVY LIGHT, an exhibition of new paintings, drawings, and animations by [Branden Koch](#) on view in our galleries October-December 2022.

Hallucinatory and contemplative, HEAVY LIGHT draws from symbolic images of star or flower-like forms, black holes, and skeletal figures. This collection of prominent works by Branden Koch carries his inventive approach to the painted surface and encoded symbology. This solo exhibition includes a dynamic selection of large scale paintings, drawings, and animations made with charcoal, oil, sand, and salt. Many areas of research including political history, and science fiction inform the artist's work at large as well as material relationships and personal experience. "Light does not have a measurable mass, but its significance creates a kind of cultural and personal weight," he says. "Light has also always been one of the main concerns of American Painting. I integrate sand and salt into my paintings because they are complex materials that convey change or stability over time. Depending on how they

behave: a million grains of sand disperse as particles of light over a surface, or an aggregate cosmos binding together as in a mortar or concrete. Salt is necessary for life and for the transmission of nerve impulses in the body, which are akin to electricity or light." - Branden Koch

The alchemist, the miner, and the gardener are all at work in this exhibition, casting a multifaceted vision that is veiled and primordial. This exhibition taps into the bewildering feelings of experiencing the mind and body moving through space and time." -Jessie Rommelt, Creative Director, Bunker Projects

Program Schedule:

Preview Reception: Friday October 14th, 5-8pm

Public Opening: Friday, November 4, 2022, 6-9pm

Artist Talk : Sunday, November 6, 2022, 2-4pm

Open Gallery Hours: Thursdays 4-6pm, Sundays 12-2pm + by appointment

The artist would like to thank Interlude Artist Residency in Hudson Valley, NY: an inclusionary residency program designed to give artist parents the time and space to create works included in this exhibition. The Artist would also like to thank Bunker Projects, Jessica Rommelt, Anna Mirzayan, Kate Gugliotta, Edward P. Steck, Fungus Books, Maria Dumlao, Chris Forsyth, Alisha Kerlin: Executive Director of The Marjorie Barrick Museum, LV, NV., and The Sustainable Arts Foundation. **This Exhibition was supported by The Heinz Endowments**



Photo credit: Stephen Joyce | stephenmjoyce.com | Branden Koch in his studio with his son sitting in rocking chair, September 18, 2022

ARTIST BIO:

The work of Branden Koch is known for its acute and emotive investigations into the complex cultural and political systems that structure our lives and experiences. His drawings and paintings are materially driven visualizations of the nervous system, walking a hi/low tightrope between cartoon and abstraction, a viscerally cosmic and cerebrally guttural aggregate.

Branden's work has been exhibited nationally. Most recently, his work has been featured in the publication *Shifter* #25 "Waiting," Cover illustration for Jeremy Hoeveraar's "Our Insolvency" Published by Goilas Books, "Bloken Exhaust," a chapbook of poetry and illustrations made in collaboration with John Yau and Ink Cap Press, NYC. His Drawings and poetry have been featured in *Hyperallergic Magazine's* column "Drawing in a Time of Fear and Lies," *Fields Magazine*, *Shifter Magazine*, *The Open Day Book*, *The Plague Review* by Rotland Press, as well as several self-published books and zines. His work has been reviewed in *Hyperallergic*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *ArtSlant*, *The Chicago Sun Times*, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Artillery Magazine*, and *Las Vegas Weekly*.

Branden currently lives in Pittsburgh, PA with his family, where he co-founded *Dot and Line Art Studio*, an art educational initiative for children and adults with his wife and partner Kate Gugliotta.



About Bunker Projects

Bunker Projects is a nonprofit artist residency and experimental gallery in Pittsburgh, PA that serves as a platform for emerging artists to develop their practice and create new works for exhibition. By blending the production, exhibition and interpretation of art we center the work of local and visiting artists. Bunker provides a unique and productive environment for artists to advance their careers and make new interpersonal connections. Equity and sustainability are core beliefs, as we work to uplift people from diverse backgrounds in the arts. ***Bunkerprojects.org***