

Meredith Rosen Gallery

Meredith Rosen Gallery is pleased to present *Don't Give Up, Skeleton!*, new work by British artist Oliver Payne. The show opens on Saturday, November 20th and remains on view through December 22.

Harajuku, Tokyo. Early 1990s and the contents of every 1960s UCLA dorm room is scattered throughout the used clothing stores that line the narrow backstreets. The Ivy League institution is little more than a repository for sartorial inspiration. Meanwhile, members of the Tokyo Sex Pistols were starting their own fashion brands. Work-ware, Westwood and skate clothes would be re-contextualized, repackaged and returned to the west.

Chunk and punk. Colors and shapes that channel Boom Bap and Drum and Bass. A new language was conceived from within the Pop Swamp. For a moment, there was just enough past and future happening at once. Semi precious plastics achieved museum status and tough natural fibers like denim and leather brushed alongside foamposite mid soles and pastel GoreTex.

Perhaps the vapid and the terminally uncool are entertained by the non-fungible market and the enticing prospect of monetizing their hobbies And maybe tech billionaires don't buy art - but retro game enthusiasts, sofbi toy collectors and vintage punk archivists do.

-Oliver Payne, 2021

Oliver Payne (b. 1977, London) lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. He received his BFA from Kingston University of Fine Art in London. Solo exhibitions have been organized at Overduin & Co. in Los Angeles, Gavin Brown's Enterprise in New York, Herald St in London, Frederico Vavassori in Milan, Nansuka Underground in Tokyo, Aishonanzuka in Hong Kong, and 356 Mission in Los Angeles. Payne's work has been exhibited internationally at the Serpentine Gallery in London, the Kunsthalle Zurich, The National Museum of Contemporary Art in Oslo, MoMA PS1 in New York, the Institute of Contemporary Art in London, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Payne's work is included in the permanent collections of the Tate Britain in London, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, and The National Museum of Contemporary Art in Oslo. Payne is also the publisher of Safe Crackers fanzine, and organizer of a series of performances titled, "Chill Out" in which he requires all mobile phone and internet systems to be turned off, in order to allow the public to immerse in a listening session for "Chill Out," the concept album by late-80s British house band KLF. The most recent iteration of "Chill Out" was hosted by the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.