

AUSTIN LEE WILL OPEN A "TOMATO CAN" @ PERES PROJECTS, BERLIN



We have long been fans of NYC's [Austin Lee](#), so much so we have featured him in the print mag and he was a key component in our [Juxtapoz x Superflat exhibition](#) we did with Takashi Murakami. Lee's excellent airbrushed works give the appearance of being digitally created, almost MS Paint style, but challenge our preconceived relationships to technology and fine art.

[Peres Projects](#) is pleased to present *Tomato Can*, the first solo exhibition in Berlin of American artist Austin Lee. Lee's impetus for making art capitalizes on his obsession with a digitally and technologically advancing world, the impact this has on contemporary culture, society, politics, and how it affects the way we look at art. Lee's ambition in this body of work is to ask the viewer to question the relationship between digital manipulation and physical experience, and the exhibition functions as an intersection between reality and a surrealism driven by technological advancement.

In *Tomato Can*, Lee focuses on paintings which are executed based on digital sketches and painted on canvas with an airbrush. The works follow basic compositional forms, have a flattened spatial depth and are heavy on primary colors, a nod to Lee's digital sketching process. Lee's choice of color is based on the purpose of stimulating light and creating intense vibrations, reminding the viewer that the primary way of thinking about color today is in the context of the digital realm. However, the way our computers display color is only an imitation of the way we as humans biologically process it. The human eye is sensitive to three different wavelengths of light – red, green and blue, but by combining these three signals, the brain creates millions of different hues.

Tomato Can runs from January 19—March 2, 2018 at Peres Projects in Berlin.

[Click here to read part of a past interview we did with Austin Lee.](#)