

LIVIO STABILE – Artist statement

Create or Destroy - July 2013, Los Angeles

In my work I use signs, symbols, forms. These forms represent notes, intuitions, marks on an extroverted surface, interactions that are “social” in the most primordial sense of the word. I record time by “writing down” different characters and symbols that reveal an exchange between opposing forces in a temporary equilibrium. The space of my paintings is bi-dimensional, flattened in an unbalanced symmetry in which binary reality cedes to a third undetermined element, representing the real story: the real purpose or subject of the work.

As a native of Italy, spatial relations and the density of signs have been strong determinants of my aesthetic. The structures in my artwork result from an architectural approach to the composition of elements in space, wherein forces are balanced to resist or escape gravity. I work by juxtaposing colors, orientations, and symbolic forms that become unified in an unbalanced symmetry of composition in a space that is essentially two-dimensional.

I prefer to paint or draw with rapid strokes, like a calligrapher, because speed is important as a way of ensuring the integrity of the moment. Color is used with the feeling that it is *di troppo*: saturated, beyond the necessary, a glorious overkill. The dazed consequentiality of the figures leaps out to create improbable scenarios while preserving an internal cohesion, the way an oxymoron combines contradictory terms.