

Andrew J. Greene
'Unconditional Surrender'
The Modern Institute, Aird's Lane Bricks Space
26 January - 9 March, 2019
Preview 25 January, 6 - 8 pm

For his first solo exhibition in Europe, *Unconditional Surrender*, Andrew J. Greene has produced a series of photographs that will be presented on a sprawling commercial display system installed throughout The Modern Institute's Bricks Space.¹ Taken with his cell phone, each of the images document head-shots and candid fan photos of celebrities found in various Los Angeles bars and restaurants. Printed in the four standard poster sizes offered by the instant photo service at his local pharmacy, the photographs will be displayed on each of the system's twenty-four vertical aluminum rods.

Hanging in the center of the gallery, Greene has installed a commercially fabricated illuminated globe which is adorned with chrome tubing and national flags that have been hand drawn by the artist in permanent marker. The sculpture, titled *Unconditional Surrender*, shares its name with the exhibition—which, among other things, references a term describing a military loss so great and decisive, that no guarantees are given to the conceding party.²

The aforementioned sculpture is a 1:1 translation of an existing light fixture found at The Red Lion Tavern, a Bavarian-themed pub in the artist's neighborhood in Los Angeles. Originally designed to display flags from the 24 countries represented in the World Cup finals, it is now used to hold an array of flags collected from customers visiting from North America, South America, the UK, Europe, Asia and the South Pacific.³ Greene has reproduced each flag.⁴

For the duration of the exhibition, the number of photos installed on the hanging system will correspond with the number of flags installed in the sculpture. The number of flags and photos installed and the order in which they are installed can be changed at the discretion of the gallery staff.

The exhibition will be accompanied with a text by Los Angeles based writer Olivian Cha.

Andrew J. Greene (b. 1988, Chicago, Illinois; Lives and works in Los Angeles), studied at School of the Art Institute Chicago.

Selected solo presentations include: *Make New York Better*, 83 Pitt Street, New York (2016); *Big Apple Logistics*, Tomorrow, New York (2016); *Tuesday Morning*, U.S. Blues, Brooklyn, NY (with Daniel Sullivan) (2015); *Victory Blindness*, Muscle Beach, Portland (2015); *Brisas Del Mar*, Michael Thibault, Los Angeles (2014); *Dogs With Fleas*, Christening for a Cat, Bed-Stuy Love Affair, Brooklyn, NY (2013).

Selected group exhibitions include: *Mean Machine (Up Jumped the Devil)*, The Meeting, New York (2016); *Great Depression*, Balice Hertling, Paris (2015); *Playing Pool with Eggs*, Galerie Bernhard, Zurich (2015); *Monday Me*, Soccer Club Club, Chicago (2015); *173 East 94th Street*, Michael Thibault, Los Angeles (2015) and *173 East 94th Street / CHAUSSEE DE WATERLOO 550*, Middlemarch, Brussels (2014); *Painted*, Green Gallery, Milwaukee (2011).

¹ The hanging system, manufactured by Walker Display is used in schools, offices, libraries, and community centers. It's designed to securely display and rearrange artwork and pictures without damaging walls.

² The most notable Unconditional Surrender was by the Axis powers at the conclusion of World War II.

³ The light fixture at The Red Lion Tavern was produced prior to the World Cup final's 32 team expansion in 1998.

⁴ There are flags from Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, the UK, and the US.

Greene has also curated numerous exhibitions and projects including *Bad Faith*, James Fuentes Gallery, New York (2016); *Bad Influence*, Michael Thibault, Los Angeles (2014) and *Sculpture Garden*, The Poor Farm, Waupaca, Wisconsin (2012).