

• **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** •
SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS Presents
The Homebody
New Works by Jim Houser
July 10th - August 7th, 2010
Opening Reception: Saturday, July 10th, 2010 / 8-11PM

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(Los Angeles, CA - June 17th, 2010) - Subliminal Projects is pleased to present The Homebody, a solo exhibition of new original works by Jim Houser. Through his paintings, installations and mixed-media pieces, Houser tempers earnest introspection with whimsical characters, warm colors and organic materials.

Known for his hand-lettered abstract poetry and quilt-like grids, Houser explores the act of transforming lifeless panels and objects into vehicles for expression. His "canvases" have included skateboards, guitars, flowerpots and basketballs. Each of his pieces seems to capture the catharsis he finds in the art-making process, displaying both his exhalations of angst and uptake of joy. Though light in color and line, Houser's images are swathed with heaviness, the toll of chronic emotional and physical pain, as the artist explores two sides of blame: guilt and anger. Yet amid that suffering Houser also explores the impact of love, channeling his feelings surrounding the recent birth of his son, Seamus. The emotional tension, coupled with the stylistic consistency, gives the body of work an undulating rhythmic quality, cycling through despondence, escapism, hope and bliss.

On display, Houser's aesthetic vernacular consumes the entire gallery space, with installations and murals throughout. In recent years, he has taken to integrating music into the experience, often with an original score he composes to complement his visual pieces. The Homebody marks the first time Houser will be releasing his soundtrack as a recording, with a limited-edition vinyl record available for purchase.

About the Artist

Jim Houser is a self-taught artist based in Philadelphia, where he helped create the Space 1026 gallery and artist collective in 1997. His interests include: listening to the cadence of speech, science and science fiction, sickness and disease, plants and animals, sport, time travel, ghosts, the art of children, secrets, radio, codes and code breaking, words that sound beautiful and mean something terrible, and words that sound horrible but mean something wonderful. Houser has shown his work at, among other places, the Jonathan Levine Gallery in New York and the Colette Gallery in Paris.

About Subliminal Projects

SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS is a multifunctional gallery space promoting diverse forms of art while providing a forum for contemporary dialogue. SUBLIMINAL was originally created by Shepard Fairey and Blaze Blouin as an artist collective in 1995. The group played an integral part in introducing skateboarding culture and design to the art world, showcasing artists such as Phil Frost, Thomas Campbell, Mike Mills, Dave Aaron, and Mark Gonzales. Shepard and Amanda Fairey continued to host and curate exhibitions that have featured artists such as Ryan McGinness, HunterGatherer, David Ellis, Doze Green, Aesthetic Apparatus, Space Invader, and Andrew Jeffery Wright. In 2003, the Subliminal Projects gallery was officially opened in the Los Angeles offices of Studio Number One. The scope of the gallery remained true to its roots while embracing new forms of graphic art, illustration, photography and time-based media. Now located in the historic Los Angeles neighborhood of Echo Park, Subliminal Projects continues to offer a platform for artistic exploration and innovation. The 2010 schedule includes art exhibitions by established and emerging artists, as well as a lecture series, workshops and artist publications.

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