



PSM  
Sabine Schmidt  
Köpenicker Strasse 126  
10179 Berlin  
mobile: +49 178 7855167  
phone: +49 30 75524626  
fax: +49 30 75524625  
office@psm-gallery.com  
www.psm-gallery.com

**DANIEL JACKSON**  
**American Gothic**

Opening: May 1st, 2015, 6-9 pm  
Duration of the exhibition: May 2nd – June 6th, 2015  
Open: Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 6 pm

The term Gothic was first used for the genre of Dark Romanticism in literature in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The artistic movement, then and its development into a subculture today, emphasized human fallibility and proneness to sin and self-destruction, as well as the difficulties inherent in attempts at social reform.

For his third solo exhibition at PSM, Daniel Jackson worked under the title *American Gothic* as an all-encompassing idea for the different, sometimes disjointed ideas he has been working on the past few years. Whether with photos, or destroyed paintings, doodles, silkscreens reminiscent of Ettore Sottsass "Bacterio" designs and graffiti tags, or videos that have much in common with the ubiquitous internet gif, he worked under this idea, finding an unremarkable beauty in the images presented. In counterpoint to the Gothicism, or Dark Romanticism of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, he chooses not to comment on the society at large and is rather apathetic to the genre's emphasized ideas of human weakness. He rather celebrates the small, often anonymous and possibly overlooked gesture of contemporary society, present everywhere, despite corporate attempts for a global mono-culture.

Daniel Jackson's oeuvre deals with this fallibility, not only of all humanity but also of the artist, beginning with his own biography. This time around he is less concerned with telling the viewer a story or creating an enclosed world or narrative as he was with his past solo presentations. This new body of work offers no solutions and asks fewer questions. All images, regardless of how they were created, are treated equally.

What appear to be just random photos are all taken from the artist's archive. Some date back to his teenage years (in the documentation of vandalised property), others were found. The reenactment of a very short scene from *Blade Runner* juxtaposed with a random video-camera effect create a new narrative open to interpretation. Meaningless scribbles, amplified and enlarged, create the template for silkscreens resembling some pseudo-tribal pattern. And finally "paintings" that would be "better off dead" have been used and abused in a fashion that not only imitates the doodles of the silkscreen but were cut in a pattern often used in camouflage nets to hide what lies beneath.