

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DEREK ERDMAN'S FANTASY SPORTS



MAINSITE CONTEMPORARY ART - NORMAN, OK - FRIDAY MAY 8TH

Join Derek Erdman as he delivers new creations of absurdist peculiarity.

OPENING RECEPTION:

FANTASY SPORTS

Friday May 8th

7-9pm

* in conjunction with the unveiling of the Norman Regional Hospital Public Art Installation and paintings by Jeff Dodd.

Mainsite Contemporary Art
122 E. Main St
Norman, OK
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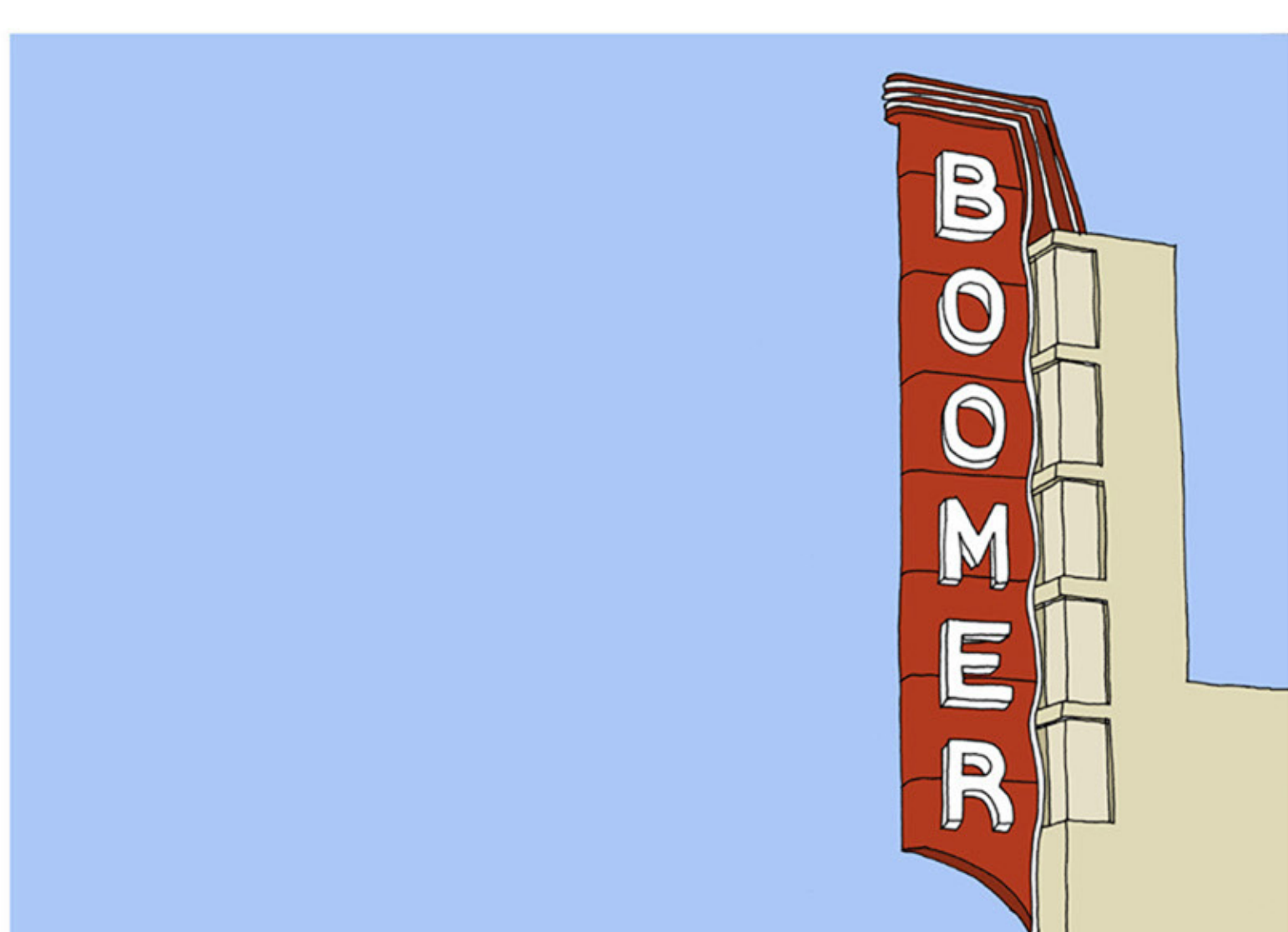
(Exhibit dates: May 8 - July 4th)

CONTACT:

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ABOUT THE ARTIST:

"Derek Erdman is regularly called a Pop Artist, and this is understandable given that his tactics appear to intensify the preoccupations of the Factory tradition. Over the last decade Erdman has developed an increasingly efficient method for producing batches of art that he can make quickly, duplicate easily, and sell cheaply. According to this method his energy is concentrated in the plan (selecting source materials from which he will 'borrow' imagery), and the execution of each piece becomes semi-automatic, a series of choreographed tasks that he can carry out much like an assembly liner or a tap dancer might perform his job. The subjects of his paintings (second-tier celebrities, flash-in-the-pan current events, obsolete advertisements) are almost always borrowed from the moving spotlight of popular attention, and so the pieces themselves take on the form of commercial debris, relics of the recent surface-past. Erdman's creative decisions are pushed along by his audience's desire to find what they already know, and he in turn pushes these desires slightly toward the unexpected (turning cute into creepy, sick into sentimental). Unlike his Pop predecessors, Erdman's paintings are not meditations on the shiny coldness of market interactions, nor are they clever declarations about the end of art. Instead, they are exercises in turning commercial surfaces back into a folk tradition, a truly popular lexicon, which we can playfully control. In a way Warhol would never have tolerated, Erdman perpetually offers his fans absolute artistic control of his fate (gleefully handing over his Myspace password, for instance, so that anybody might tinker with his brand). In doing so he illuminates his own celebrity, like all the others, as the people's creation." Hannah Woodroffe, February 2009, Ohio



"CINEMA TREASURES"



"JAMES GARNER ENDORSES BIG RED SODA"



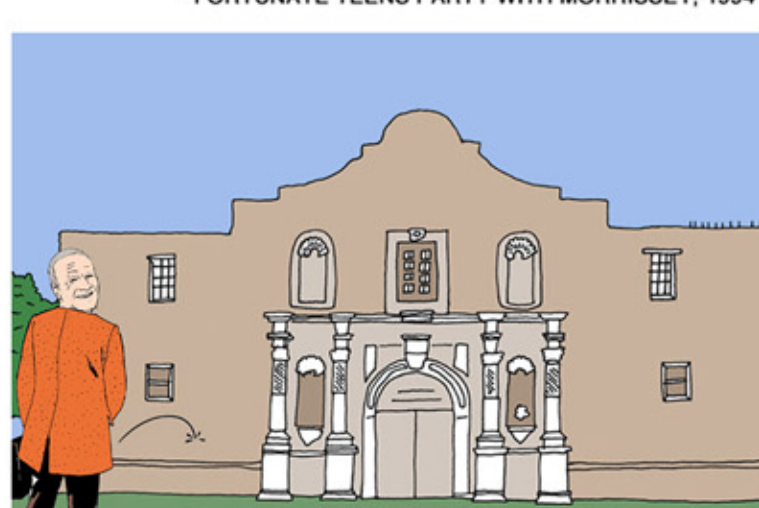
"NIGHTHAWKS: IN THE BATHROOM"



"FORTUNATE TEENS PARTY WITH MORRISSEY, 1994"



"STILL LIFE WITH OLD SNACKS"



"SWITZER VISITS THE ALAMO"