



The Shooting Gallery
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Paul Chatem Biography

Paul Chatem was born in 1974 in Bellevue, Washington. He grew up in La Crescenta, CA, a foothill town that kept itself apart from the city of Los Angeles it looked down on. This separation between rich and poor, the lucky and the down-and-out, has always been a connecting theme and influence in his paintings.

After graduating from the Kansas City Art Institute in 1997, Paul showed his work in coffee shops and group shows around Los Angeles. At that time Paul had two bodies of work, clean lined ink work and surreal oil paintings. Both were ambitious but seemed to be disconnected from the other. In 2001 Paul backed off from showing to develop his work. What came from this was a new style that combined aspects of those earlier works, taking the narrative aspects and clean lines of his comic book influences, mixed with more painterly aspects he developed his first solid body of work.

“It Tastes like Whiskey” opened Feb. 2006 at the Black Maria Gallery in Atwater, CA. Since then his work has been featured at The Shooting Gallery in San Francisco CA, CoproNason Gallery in Santa Monica CA, The Bluebottle Art Gallery in Seattle WA, and has been included in many publications and group shows in North America and abroad. Paul is currently hiding out in the foothills of Los Angeles. Working construction to support his art, he is now working on pieces that incorporate those skills with his unique painting vision.