



OSVALDO BUDET (b. 1979)

My First Time with Obama

graphite, diamond dust, glass, acrylic and glitter on a photograph

27 1/2 x 43 1/4 in. (30 1/4 x 46 x 1 in.)

2007

3276

Artist's Statement: "Living in a colony and "Third World" country has made me conscious and curious of the relationships between figures of authority and the powerless. I see my art-practice as an analogy of the political relationships between municipal groups and the public. My role as art maker is both a colonizing force (perhaps, simply the colonizing of canvas) and a vote-less viewer of the political theater.

Coupled with my fascination of political conflict, particularly of Latin America, I have an insatiable obsession with documentary films. In the past, I've produced films. But it is the desire to create and inhabit the "truthful" storytelling that I'm most compelled by. I've begun painting depictions of the documentary fantasies I catch myself having: painting the scenes of the film with abundant silver, poetically suggesting the material of projected celluloid.

I'm also taken with the clichés and poetics of subtitling. The visual translation of language in subtitle is fascinating to me for its beauty and potential humor. As English is my second language, I find it poignant to have my paintings address the audience, or me the viewer, through the foreign-film subtitle. These worlds of politics and poetics, of fiction and truth, are tightly intertwined... my work is about looking at this complication."

Born in San Juan of Puerto Rico, Budet obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art at the School of Fine Art of Puerto Rico in 2003 and a Master's Degree in Fine Art at the Maryland Institute of Art at the Hoffberger School of Painting, directed by Grace Hardigan, in 2008. He was selected to be part of the prestigious Leipzig International Program Residency in Germany where he had his most recent solo show. In 2008 he was included in the show "Photoshopping" at the Museum of Latin American Art. In 2009 he will be part of several group shows in Ireland, Puerto Rico, Venice and New York. At present, Osvaldo Budet lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

The information and material herein represents Gallery's best efforts and understanding of the current history and scholarship with respect to the provenance of the Work(s) of Art described and is not part of any warranty.