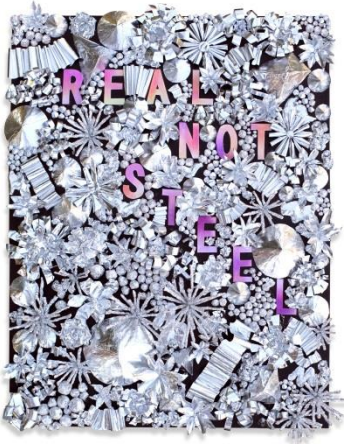


Café Confessions

April 18—Aug. 6, Tempe Public Library Connections Cafe

This exhibition brings together artists David Miller and Michael Afsa for the first time. Though the two artists work in distinctly different styles and media, they nevertheless share some similarities in. Both artists address pop culture, utilize graphic design elements in their work, and incorporate mixed media resulting in pieces with both realistic and abstracted imagery.



Michael Afsa, Phoenix

Michael Afsa was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in graphic design in 2008 from California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles and became fascinated with typography. While pursuing a minor in social science, he started an interest in psychology. Over the past few years, Afsa has worked as a graphic designer and commercial artist for corporations such as Quiksilver, Scion and Apple and more recently started pursuing his work in fine arts.

Afsa says of his own work *“for this exhibition I address the theme ‘pop culture’ by attempting to explain pop culture as a construct, an illusion apart from reality.... of what is and what is not desirable, and creates a baseline for cultural behavior; how one looks, thinks, acts, speaks and feels.”*



David Miller, Chandler

David Miller was born in Omaha, Nebraska. He received an a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography from Arizona State University in 2006. He has taught photography and art for Gilbert Public Schools, city of Chandler Recreation and Mesa Arts Center. Today Miller is a freelance fashion and fine art photographer and creates ceramic masks and electronic music in his spare time.

About his own work Miller says *“The work I'm presenting uses unreal elements of art- altered colors, repeated patterns, jarring shapes, mismatched textures, embroidered lines- to mix straight fashion photography with practical effects....My biggest inspirations are from imaginative films and music that all have some similar blend of real and unreal - pop culture staples such as the Muppets or the Beatles. I also like the graphic design qualities of photography of Man Ray, Richard Avedon and Ralph Eugene Meatyard.”*