Postinternet Is Dead!

By Exhibition Initiative · May 21, 2015 · 🕒 · Taken at Oberlin College 🌐

Photographed by Allegra Sussman

An exhibition of student and international art submissions brought to you by Exhibition Initiative.
Not all art that was displayed is present in this album!

Thanks to those who submitted artwork and who helped to assemble and coordinate Exhibition Initiative's "Postinternet Is Dead!" show. We really appreciated your contribution, whether it was in helping to install the show, or in submitting work (online, IRL, or via mail). The show was a great success with a range of works and a big turnout throughout the weekend of its opening in Fisher Gallery.

Postinternet has become everything and nothing.

The goal was to recognize the internet as yet another sphere, positioned awkwardly between public and private, material and immaterial, and move on. Postinternet, as a concept, was meant to describe the exciting and/or disturbing integration of the internet into our everyday lives. "Postinternet" is not 'post' in that it's over, but rather 'post' as in 'since'.

Years after the term's birth ca. 2008, our understanding of what it is to be 'postinternet' has splintered into infinite pieces. There is undoubtedly a network of postinternet aesthetic markers, postinternet cliques of artists, and popular postinternet conceptual frameworks. But ultimately, postinternet failed to exhibit its own thesis, treating the internet as subject in the way we might claim to not care about our ex but still ask our friends how he's doing whenever he's brought up.
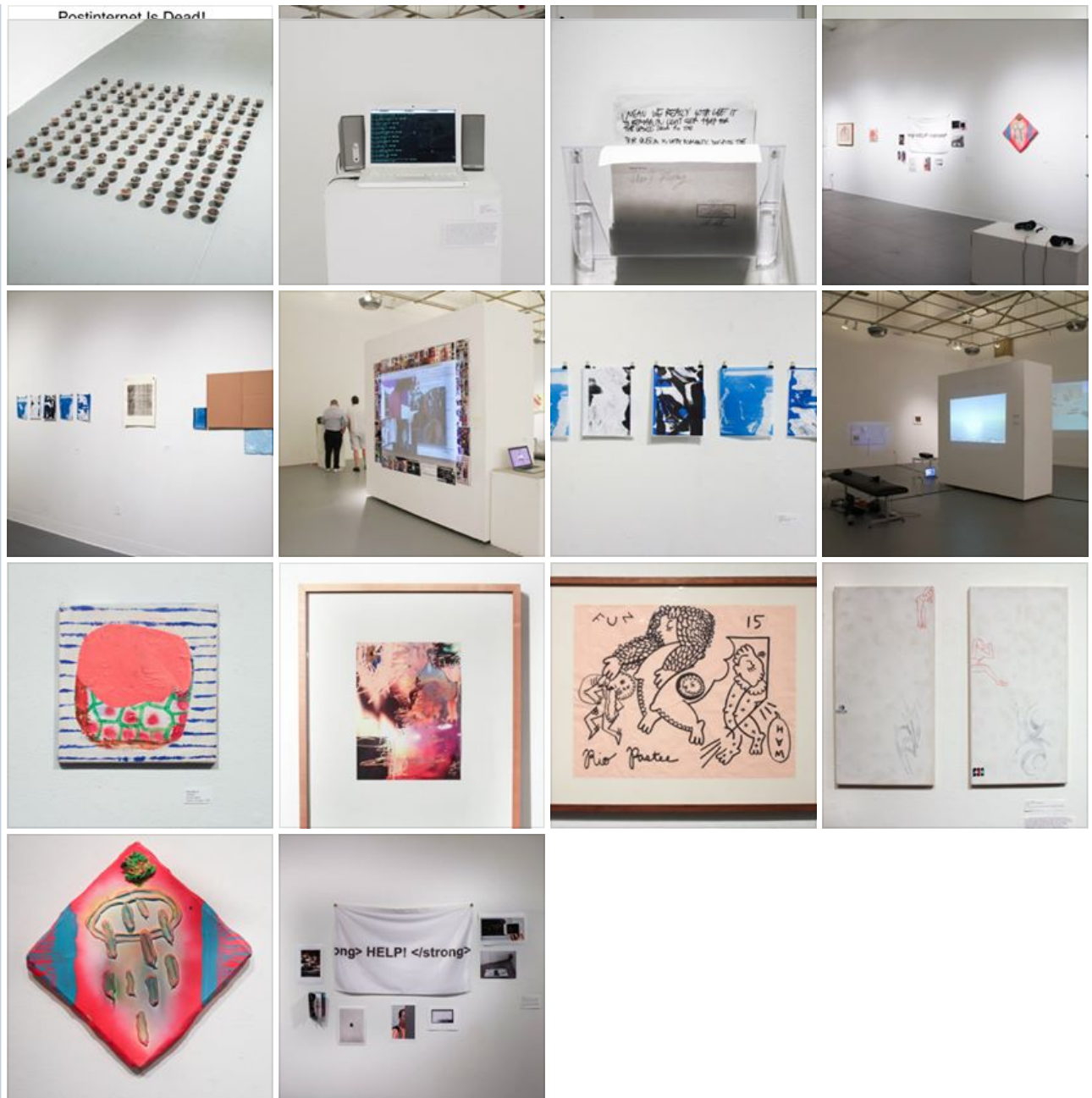
This show is a send-off to postinternet as we know it. Put on by people who have experienced and utilized the internet since a young age, it strives to encourage artists to acknowledge the relationship that their work has to the existence of the internet regardless of medium or subject. We hope to show the wide variety of approaches to 'art after the internet' and illustrate that perhaps, at this moment, postinternet is dead. Or maybe it achieved its initial entropic goal, burying the internet amidst everything else.

Most central to this entire show, however, is that our group's call for artwork on Facebook expanded rapidly and unexpectedly beyond the network of Oberlin College and, within hours, became an internationally visited event page on Facebook. Whether key words such as "post internet" were posted at just the right time and on the right online platform or were shared by the right few people, in a few short days we received hundreds of submissions from all across the US and from countries including Poland, Brazil, Spain, Turkey, England, Mexico, Germany, and China. We can't help but think that the nature of this interface enabled the show to exist as an exemplary "post internet" work in itself. While the show's accessibility is hampered by the very real digital divide, remaining exclusive towards those who do not use the internet freely, do not have access, or are prohibited by extreme censorship, the show's internet presence reached far beyond Oberlin's city limits. We aimed to capitalize on the broad reach of our call for artist as an opportunity to understand the relationships that artists from multiple continents may have with the internet.

The works in this show attempt to understand how the internet has affected large themes including authorship, technology, communication, language, the body, imperialism, censorship, surveillance, freedom, cultural and physical exchange.
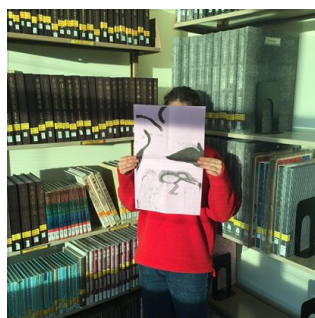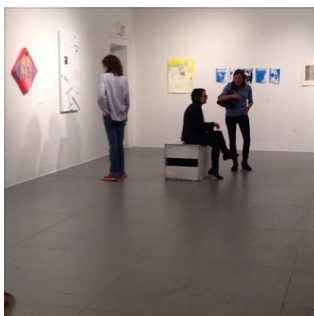
ARTISTS
Judy Jackson, Kirk Pearson, Rob Sohmer, Harley Foos, Harlee Ludwig, Molly Lieberman, Laura Hartmann, Brian Johnson, Tabita Rezaire, Andrew Wagner, Berkay Tuncay, Jorge Loureiro, Benito Mayor Vallejo, Will Kendrick, Owen Cornec, Dorota Kaczmare, Oliver Levine, Tom Bogaert, Sarah Rose Lejeune, Elizabeth Levinson, Nat Marcus, Devin Kenny, Joseph Lubitz, Joseph Conder, Jorge Loureiro, Jeffrey Charles Stanley, Tony Chrenka, William Glass, Flynn Casey, Shuang Li, Maggie Robbins, LJ Frezza, Lin Tzu Huan, Eli Coplan, Max Merill, Emma Laube, Taylor Stanton

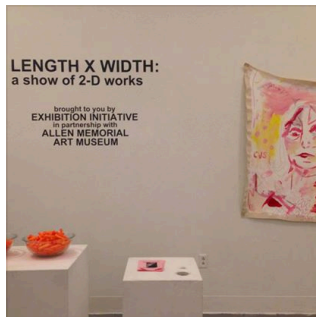Sophie Becker, Liam Casey, Thomas Huston and 9 others like this.
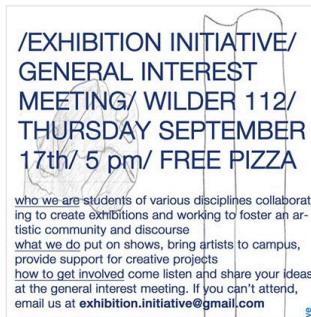
Other Albums

📹 **Videos**

Profile Pictures
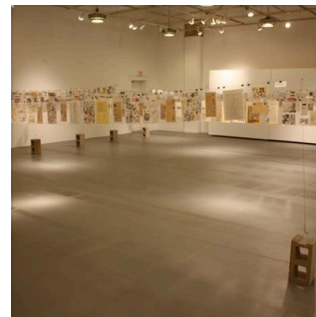8 photos

Zine Workshop and Show
13 photos

LENGTH X WIDTH: a show of 2-D works
13 photos

Timeline Photos
103 photos

Cover Photos
8 photos

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