

An abstract painting featuring a central white circle surrounded by thick, expressive brushstrokes in red, blue, and black. The background is composed of layered, textured washes of green, yellow, and brown. In the lower right, there are two distinct, rounded shapes in shades of blue and brown, resembling handles or feet. The overall style is gestural and expressive, with visible brushwork throughout.

# WHORL

Ashley Garrett & Zach Seeger





# WHORL

Featuring the work of Ashley Garrett  
and Zach Seeger

January 12 – February 19, 2017



SRO GALLERY

1144 Dean Street

Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11216

Front cover: **ASHLEY GARRETT**, *Dock*, 2015, oil on canvas, 10 x 8"

Left: **ZACH SEEGER**, *Eye (Turkey) Detail*, 2016, oil on canvas, 18 x 24"



“IMAGINATION OUTSTRIPS ALL THE WORLD’S MAGICIANS: IT NOT ONLY PLACES THE REAL BEFORE OUR EYES... BUT ALSO, WITH A POWER MORE POTENT THAN THAT OF MAGIC, IT DRAWS THAT WHICH DOES NOT EXIST OUT OF THE STATE OF POTENTIALITY, GIVES IT A SEMBLANCE OF REALITY, AND MAKES US SEE, FEEL AND HEAR THESE NEW CREATIONS.”

—Johann Jakob Bodmer



Ashley Garrett, *Goblin*, 2015, oil on canvas, 14 x 12"



Zach Seeger, *Eye (Computer Room)*, 2016, oil on canvas, 11 x 16"

## Foreword

For our opening exhibit of 2017 **SRO GALLERY** is pleased to present *Whorl*, a two person exhibition featuring the works of **Ashley Garrett** and **Zach Seeger**.

In *Whorl* **Ashley Garrett** and **Zach Seeger** reveal separately their dual external and internal worlds that can only materialize through a trust that painting and sculpture will protect their vulnerable side through this reciprocated effort.

In her “ribbon” paintings **Garrett** finds form in the highlights emanating from the axis of a ribbon that holds the meaning in its prize. The painting however, moves the viewer through a landscape evoking, in some turns, a darker scent, one that brings us around the prize and into a pungent burrow.

In other ribbon paintings she accesses invented flowers. The decorative qualities of the arising forms become more like gems and precious stones in some. They soar in an invented air of biological architecture. Like helixes in the landscape one wonders where they exist.

In her landscapes there is evident misremembering. The key to achieving the prize lies in feeling safe, trusting that faint sensation of landscape surrounding the helix is uninhabited. Although we can never quite grasp it, the duality will protect our vulnerable side in its seclusion, privacy and estrangement.

**Zach Seeger’s** paintings of eyes continue our wonder with hording; clashing color schemes and shards of empty interior light emanating from within and outside it’s vacant eye, the canvas becomes a kind of eyelid itself, blinking back at you.

You can enter through the pupil, as it is a portal through the looking glass, or into the non-conformist foxhole. Then again, it could be our reflection we are seeing. Either way, we feel that there is something forgettable about us and we don’t have the scent to look back.

*Snake*, one of Seeger’s sculptures, presents another coiled image for consideration within our narrative. The weightiness of its material, pigmented carved timber, rears up in a partially coiled defensive posture.

*Sword*, also of timber, has only the humorous likeness of a sword, its meaning held in allegory, with trepidation or folly.

Both artists are painting a fantasy. Their metaphors of ribbons and eyes echo the symbolist era and register their experience. Each looks outside to look in, inside to look out, at times strikingly confrontational and humorous.

**Don Doe** and **Cecilia Whittaker-Doe**  
Directors, **SRO GALLERY**



ASHLEY GARRETT, *PTK*, 2015, oil on canvas, 12 x 9"



ZACH SEEGER, *EYE*, 2015, Acrylic on canvas, 11 x 14"





ASHLEY GARRETT, *A Day for Fred*, 2015, oil on canvas, 16 x 12"



Left: ASHLEY GARRETT, *Lightfoot*, 2015, oil on canvas, 20 x 10"  
Right: ASHLEY GARRETT, *Well in Hand*, 2015, oil on canvas, 19 x 12"





ZACH SEEGER, *EYE (Seedpod)*, 2015, oil on canvas, 11 x 14"





ZACH SEEGER, *Sword*, 2016, Carved wood, paint, copper, 18 x 18 x 70"



ZACH SEEGER, *Snake*, 2004-2015, Carved wood, paint, 26 x 26 x 28"





## ARTISTS

**ASHLEY GARRETT** received her BFA from the School of Visual Arts in 2008. Recent shows include a solo show at Hood Gallery in Brooklyn and group shows at Orgy Park, Nurture Art, Brian Morris Gallery and Novella Gallery in New York; the Torrance Art Museum and TSA LA in Los Angeles; and Geoffrey Young Gallery in Great Barrington, MA. Her work has been reviewed in *Painting is Dead*, *Gorky's Granddaughter* and *Arts in Bushwick*. She lives and works in New York. [ashleygarrett.com](http://ashleygarrett.com)

**ZACH SEEGER** was born and raised in Endwell, NY. He received his BFA from Binghamton University and his MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in painting. He currently is the director of This Friday or Next Friday Gallery in Brooklyn. He lives and works in Brooklyn and Upstate, NY. [zachseeger.com](http://zachseeger.com)

## WORKS LIST

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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“PART OF DOING SOMETHING IS LISTENING.  
WE ARE LISTENING.  
TO THE SUN.  
TO THE STARS.  
TO THE WIND.”

—MADELINE L'ENGLE, *Swiftly Tilting Planet*

ASHLEY GARRETT, *Appaloosa Bay*, 2015, oil on canvas, 14 x 11"





SRO Gallery • 1144 Dean Street • Brooklyn, NY • 11216