Recycled Art

Recycled cardboard from Michael Bevilacqua’s studio blankets half the walls at the Gering & Lopez gallery, serving as a backdrop for his new works or becoming part of the installation when ripped, shredded or smeared with paint.

Bevilacqua, 43, previously mixed pop culture, logos, racing cars, his life and art references to a smooth, glossy effect. Now he is less literal, more abstract as he combines painting, drawings, stenciling and collage in these acrylic and mixed media works on paper or linen.

Paint-splattered hands pull back a green hoodie in “Atomic,” a self-portrait, to reveal a stark landscape, not a face.

Four legs jut out from a guitar slung around a smoking musician in a work on paper, all immersed in a deep blue wash; the scene could be underwater. The coloring evokes Bevilacqua’s recent travels to Greece, as do the ships, buoys and portholes that pop up in many of these efforts.

“Sea of Change” shows a cool, accomplished combination of image and graphics -- a footless baseball player, bat resting in hand, astride a black and white striped square set mid-canvas, with a peering face in the background. But the visitor’s eye keeps going back to the kicking guitar and shredded walls that give an unrestrained element to the show.

Prices range from $5,000 to $48,500.


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