

## Jeff Petersen: Entranced | Current State of Being September 16 – October 8, 2017

**Join us for a closing reception on Saturday, October 7 from 4 to 6 pm.**

Avenue 12 Gallery is delighted to present Jeff Petersen: Entranced | Current State of Being. The exhibit includes paintings, sculpture, hand burnished woodblock prints, and installations by Jeff Petersen that explore the modern paradox of mobile phone fascination at the expense of that which surrounds us. This newly vital technology of the cell phone may be problematic for the lone anamorphic figures captivated by the digital world.

The exhibit revolves around a central character loosely based on *Noppera-bō*, a Japanese spirit who pretends to be someone you know, only to reveal itself as a faceless spirit. This character is clearly captivated by the digital world, perhaps absurdly so, and is juxtaposed with the natural world to which it has lost connection as we rely on our cell phones for self expression.



Two window installations were created, “Not Looking” on 12th Avenue, and “Lost at Sea” on Lake Street, that use papier-mâché sculptures, painted wood, found objects, and LED lights.

In Petersen’s paintings, the external environments, lush and dreamlike, beckon for inclusion in the character’s current state of being. Yet the internal landscape of Being may be disconnected from humanity, the world, and even itself.

Join us on Saturday from 4 to 6 pm for our closing reception; no phones required!

About the Artist: Jeff Petersen is a painter, illustrator and muralist who has been based in San Francisco for the last 20 years. His paintings have appeared in various groups shows in California. His murals range from public art projects (SFAC StreetSmArts program, Palo Alto Children’s Library) to private commissions (Escape From NY Pizza, Little Chihuahua restaurants). He has created music posters for the Fillmore Auditorium (Bill Graham Presents) and editorial art for the indie music magazine Devil in the Woods. He is also grateful to have the chance to combine his love of surfing and the ocean by creating art for magazines such as Surfer’s Path, Surfer, Surfer’s Journal and illustrating the book Lost Coast by author Drew Kampion. He graduated from San Francisco State in 1992 with a degree in fine art with an emphasis in painting and drawing.

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### About the Gallery

Avenue 12 Gallery is a new contemporary art gallery in San Francisco with a focus on artwork by emerging and mid career Bay Area artists.



Jeff Petersen “Forest For The Trees” 2017 Oil on Canvas 22” x 27”

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