



Elmer Guevara
Spaceship

F2T Gallery | Via Statuto 13, 20121 Milano
Opening December 15th 2022, 6-9pm

December 16th, 2022 — January 14th, 2023

"To Milan,

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the word "Spaceship" as a vehicle used for space travel.

I've also listened to the word in several Hip-Hop songs where it's often used as a nickname for a car. A land vehicle. I believe the reference is an East Coast reference but don't quote me on that. Metaphorically, I tie the two definitions or my metaphorical understanding of the two through W.E.B Dubois' Double Conscious concept. How do I do this?

The land automobile takes us from one space to the next, from one psychological space to another. When we travel to a certain space it requires the altering and adaptation that those spaces ask from us. Unconsciously, we switch channels when commuting into other worlds within the world. Certain neighborhoods, areas, or blocks require a different sense of alertness or ease.

But that's thinking from place A to place B.

I'm also thinking of how cars become more than what they're made for.

In my hometown, in Los Angeles, California, after the retirement of the Red Car in the early 1960s, the freeways or express highways took a grip on what commuting would become and the dependency to the automobile. This also paved the route for car culture a defining element of Angelino culture. I'm talking about low riders, paint jobs, custom detailing that allows cars to speak materially, cars used in conflicts and to distinguish class, and of course the loud ass speakers. When I travel, the car as a concept becomes an element I sought to understand in different regions and cities. In New York, cars appear to be a significant baggage, difficult to park and the constant parking violation. In LA, we practically live in cars, so they become more intimate containers. They are vessels we treat as space, very homelike.

In this body of work, I utilize the automobile as a vessel and the figure as a vessel within the vessel. The vast time spent in cars allows for history and memories to be made while in movement or while sitting in a parked car. I condensed a survey of biographical memories revolving around the use of automobiles within my family and some reinvented memories. In the whip, I depict moments of mundanity, of simply just lying in a car, of the stress and terror of being pulled over by an officer, of waiting in the busted work truck to go work on Sundays, and of waiting amid chaos under a glove compartment. This shares an intimate recollection of how the automobile encapsulated biographical memories through my upbringing and into the present."

Elmer Guevara, 2022
Downtown, Los Angeles

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Gallery Hours | Open on appointment

F2T Gallery, Via Statuto 13, 20121 Milan

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www.f2tgallery.com

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