

Michael Anthony Garguilo : Adjunct Faculty

Biography

Born in south Florida, Michael Anthony Garguilo is a painter and printmaker who received his MFA from Boston University and his BFA from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX. He has received honors and awards for his work. He is currently teaching at Saginaw Valley State University. Since arriving in Michigan in 2011 he has maintained an active studio practice exhibiting his work nationally and continuing to lecture and teach in Detroit.



Artist Statement

In the series *Everybody Wants To Be Caesar*, I investigate the absurdity of violence as viewed through the lens of power. Depictions of men engaged in posturing and violence echo the same struggle for dominance in both business and politics. These works evidence my interest in the human form in motion and the awkwardness of the body as captured in a brief moment.

The somewhat humorous and absurdist appearance of men in suits and ties tussling against an unknown backdrop can make these moments of confrontation seem like nothing more than a costume party gone awry or a tug-of-war over a tie.

The crux of this series lies in an interest in the primordial, and still present, conflicts in which we witness a deterioration of civility for the sake of supremacy. Currently there is a rhetoric often employed in the high-stakes worlds of commerce and government that, in its underhandedness, leaves me questioning as to whether or not verbal exchanges are just as violent as any physical altercation.

- Michael Anthony Garguilo