

Meliksetian MB Briggs

art ltd.

Critics Picks: Los Angeles

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Installation view, "Class & Class Conflict" at Meliksetian|Briggs.

**Johannes Wohnseifer, "Class & Class Conflict"
Meliksetian|Briggs**

On view through June 10, 2017

Four seemingly disparate bodies of work, united by a cool, crisp, Pop palette, by Johannes Wohnseifer offer alternate avenues to explore the difficult terrain of "Class & Class Conflict." The most graphic and eye-catching works depict the ultimate status symbol, the Land Rover-esque Mercedes G

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Class, originally developed to escort the Shah of Persia through a contentious visit to Germany in 1967. Functionally obsolete, the Geländewagen's legacy continues now as a display of urban elite knighthood. More elusive, a trio of multiple panel artworks from the German artist's *Colony Collapse* series juxtapose lo- with hi-tech as scumbled painted surfaces and traditional batik-dyed fabrics are overlaid with digital laser printed fabrics and words evoking implications of Colonialism, of both the human and animal variety. The phrase *Honey Money* makes multiple appearances, evoking the plight of the endangered honeybees, an essential component of the agricultural economy. With seven new species of bees added to the endangered lists just last year, it is a reminder that the most vulnerable elements of the ecosystem, those most fragile links, often prove the most essential.