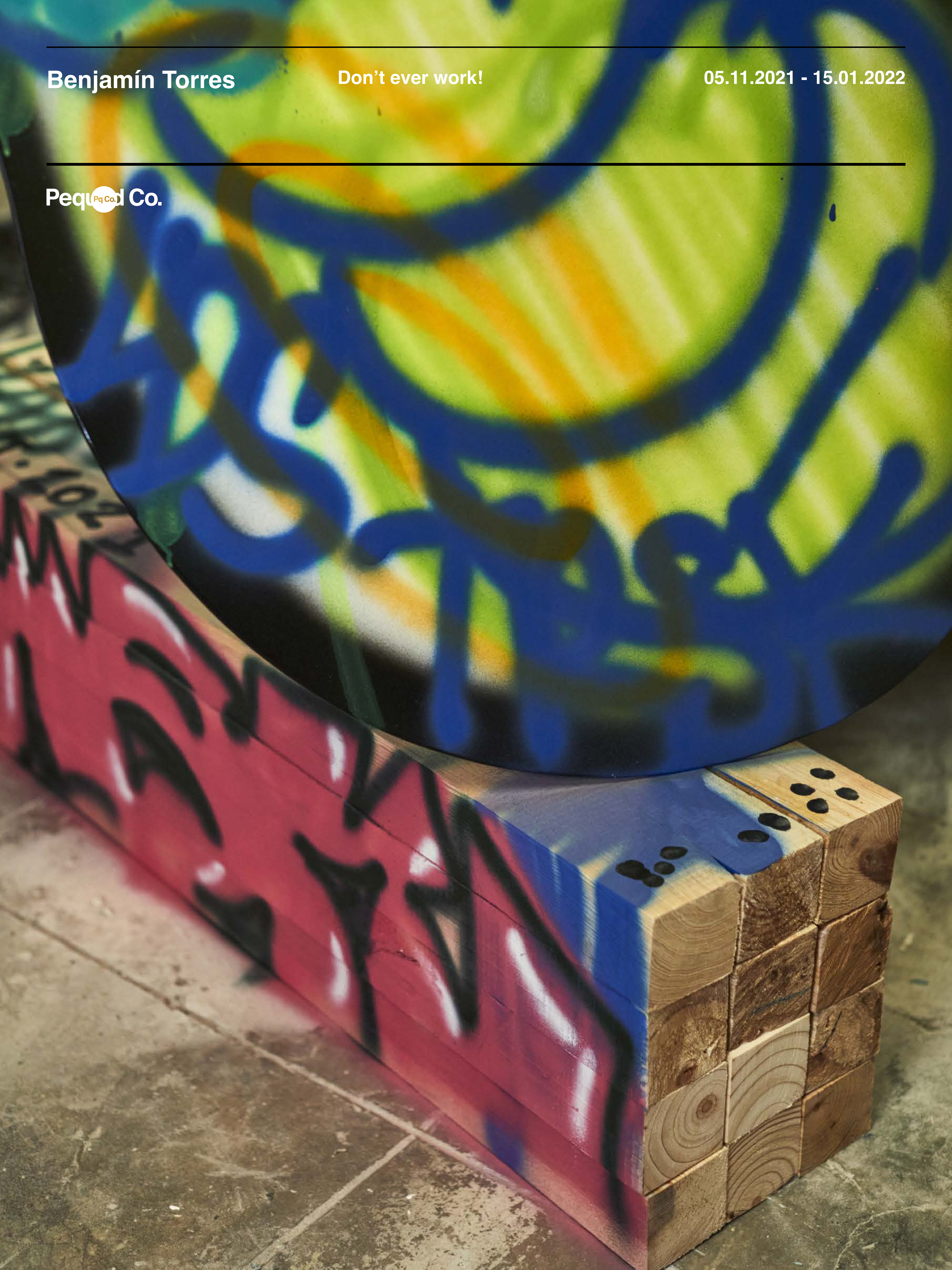


Benjamín Torres

Don't ever work!

05.11.2021 - 15.01.2022

Pequid Co.





I do what I want to see. Benjamín Torres (2021)

Pequod Co. presents *Don't ever work!* by Benjamín Torres, from November 5th, 2021 at Lancaster 29.

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Don't ever work! brings together a body of work that focuses on moving information from the wall to the sculpture. It focuses on the disarticulation of graffiti to reconfigure it into a three-dimensional syntax, using writing to build sculptures and using sculpture to write.

Continuing the far-reaching project *Dislocaciones Demarcadas*, Benjamín Torres' work is based on a constant search for the material and conceptual dynamism of art. From graffiti found in the street, he recovers graphemes through an artistic-taxonomic process of selecting, analyzing and dissecting to rearticulate tags, bombs and even the paints derived from demonstrations, including some stickers that, in most cases, function as a support for signatures and as an interval between the painting and the wall.

The title of the show derives from the inflammatory phrase first found on the streets of Paris around 1952, *Ne travaillez jamais!*, which emerged as part of the street actions of the Letrist movement that later gave way to Situationism.

In the same way Torres makes a historical approach through the documentation that Brassai made between 1933 and 1960 in Paris entitled *Graffiti*, in which, by means of the camera, he recorded various graffiti engraved on the wall prior to the invention of spray painting. These *objets trouvés* are reconfigured through Torres' work, in which the photographic process carried out by Brassai's camera is transformed from analogue photography to sculpture, by means of the computerized arm that carves the reliefs into concrete slabs.

The procedural and transgressive nature of graffiti generates a complex stratigraphy full of nuances, splicing pictorial layers, coming from new paintings, from the so-called "footsteps" or simply derived from the maintenance of the wall where they are located. Something similar happens with the sculptures of Torres,



this palimpsest created by the artist from the reconfiguration of language through different layers of information, generate a body of work that, like graffiti, bursts into public and private space.

The show *Don't ever work!* presents the result of the relationship that Torres establishes between text and visual language, thus generating a continuous cycle that navigates between the wall and the sculpture.

Ana Lizeth Mata Delgado

* Intervention by the writers: Atardecer Dwsk, Fixka Love and Ofier.