

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.



## ALL AMERICAN

by

## GANZEER

Opening Reception: January 16<sup>th</sup>,  
6-8 pm

**New York, New York- Leila Heller Gallery** is pleased to announce “All-American By Ganzeer”, the first solo exhibition in the United States of Ganzeer on view from **January 16 – February 21, 2015** at **568 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street**. A reception for the artist will take place **Friday, January 16, 2015** from **6PM-8PM**. “All-American By Ganzeer” is curated by Dr. Shiva Balaghi, one of the world’s foremost scholars of contemporary art from the Middle East.

For his Leila Heller Gallery debut, the artist has assembled over 80 screen prints and acrylics that deliver a visual commentary on life in America today. The imagery represents a bold re-imagination of contemporary urban symbols and icons. Ganzeer takes over the gallery’s Eleventh Avenue windows to install a work that harkens back to his roots creating art in the streets of Cairo. Working on an array of media (paper, canvas, wood, and video) the artist presents a view of America that Dr Balaghi describes as “a playful and sometimes disturbing look at the quotidian and the political” and “a visual diary of Ganzeer’s first experience of living in the U.S.”

Resolutely political and populist, the artist came to international prominence during the 2011 Egyptian uprisings that led to the fall of the Mubarak regime. His military defiant imagery became a visual reference for many, for the historical moment in the country. A graphic designer by training, Ganzeer’s name (bicycle chain in English) reflects his firm belief that artists should be agents for change and his work in Egypt along with exhibitions across the globe clearly reflect this. He has proven adept at mastering a number of techniques in his ongoing effort to explain the places and people where he has lived. Critic and author Carlo McCormick has described him as “a chameleon and adapts his visuals to the content.”

**Ganzeer** is the pseudonym of an Egyptian artist. He is not an author, comicbook artist, installation artist, painter, speaker, street artist, or videographer, though he has assumed these roles in a number of places around the world. His art has been shown in Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, Jordan, the Netherlands, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, and the United States, as well as in myriad Cairo galleries. The Huffington Post has ranked him among the top 25 street artists currently shaking up public art.

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