



# Karl Mullen

Untitled Moses painting collages, 2016

**Untitled #1**

**Untitled #3**

**Untitled #6**

**Untitled #8**

**Untitled #5**

**Untitled #2**

**Untitled #4**

**Untitled #7**

**Untitled #9**

Paint and collage on leaves, stick and paper

Opening bid: \$100 each (designate # of the work you are bidding on)

To watch Mullen paint is to watch a weird amalgam of line chef, body-worker, bartender and day laborer, each having sworn off the traditional tools of the trade. Mullen discovers his subjects as he paints, surprising himself, restless. A prolific artist, Mullen typically has dozens of paintings at varying stages of completion. Stacks of them lean against the rough-plank walls or lie in the shallow drawers of metal drafting cabinets. Clutter is everywhere; no surface is clear. When a mouse chews a hole in a painting, opportunities appear.

Mullen's work is shown in galleries throughout North America and Europe, and in the annual Outsider Art Fair in New York. Like Jean Dubuffet's art brut, of which "outsider art" is the English approximation, Mullen's paintings privilege the raw over the cooked, spontaneous process over studied composition, the iconic over the naturalistic, the primitive over the polished.

Rambunctiousness is afoot. Ardor is always just around the corner.