

New York Academy of Art Bill Powers in conversation with Michael Kagan

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Michael Kagan, the artist behind the Big TV cover, has also collaborated with Pharrell Williams on his clothing line
© Courtesy of the artist.

Bill Powers owns Half Gallery in New York. He is the author of several books, including *What We Lose in Flowers . . .* (Karma, 2012) and *Interviews with Artists* (Gagosian, 2013). His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *GQ Style*, *Purple Fashion*, and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Michael Kagan lives and works in Brooklyn. He holds an MFA from New York Academy of Art (2005), where he was awarded a postgraduate fellowship (2005–6). He has collaborated multiple times with Pharrell Williams and Mr. Williams's company, Billionaire Boys Club. He has also created a series of commissions based on the archives from the Smithsonian Institution. His artwork was used as the cover of the White Lies' album *Big TV*. The album cover was listed on multiple lists of the top covers of the year and won the 2013 Best Art Vinyl award. Solo exhibitions include *I Was There When It Happened* (2019–20) at Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art; *We Have Felt the Ground Shake* (2018) at Bill Brady Gallery, Miami, FL; *Lights Out* (2016) and *Thunder in the Distance* (2014), both at Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, NY; and *I Am My Father's Son* (2012) at Space SBH, St Barthélemy, French West Indies. Selected group exhibitions include *Mission to Space*, Children's Museum of the Arts (2016–17); *Your Favorite Artist's Favorite Artist*, Joshua Liner Gallery, New York, NY (2014); *Shake the Dust Off*, Allegra LaViola Gallery, New York, NY (2012); and *Growing Pains* at Charles de Jonghe, Brussels, Belgium (2010).