

## HESSE FLATOW

Yerebakan, Osman Can. "Action Figures." *The Village Voice*. In Print. 2017.

# the village VOICE

CRITIC'S PICK ART

Through August 20

### ACTION FIGURES

CLARK FILIO'S FANTASTICAL PORTRAITS OF GLAMOROUS HEROES LIGHT UP RIDGEWOOD

Upon stepping into Kimberly-Klark — a collaborative art space located in the burgeoning Queens neighborhood of Ridgewood — one quivers at the eccentricity of the wall-to-wall carpet accentuating "Betrayal and Vengeance," Brooklyn-based artist **Clark Filio**'s New York debut, comprising six variously sized oil-on-canvas paintings. The corporate-flavored environment suggested by the gaudy material blanketing the floor meets an echo in the exhibition's largest piece, *Blue Steel*, in which a woman confidently aims her gun toward the viewer in a disheveled high-floor office space. (Other details from the quasi-dystopian scene, which nods to Kathryn Bigelow's 1990 thriller of the same name about a fearless female cop, include a curiously broken CD on the floor and a futuristic, steel-colored urban backdrop.) Filio, who apprenticed under famed fantasy painter Rick Berry, perfects a balance between fiction and reality for which he often delves into the moving-image canon or other elements of the popular imagination. His unique synthesis is best embodied here in *Phaseblade*, a turbulent depiction of a genderless heroic figure that incorporates hints of superstardom, otherworldliness, and glamour. OSMAN CAN YEREBAKAN

Kimberly-Klark, 788 Woodward Avenue, Queens, [kimberly-klark.com](http://kimberly-klark.com), free

Clark Filio's *Blue Steel* nods to Kathryn Bigelow's Jamie Lee Curtis-starring policier.



Kimberly-Klark