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Dallas Design District
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STALLMAN / MARS Iconic Patterns

Laura Rathe Fine Art Presents New Works in Two-Person Exhibition in Dallas, Texas

(Dallas, TX, October 18, 2017) – Dallas Design District gallery, Laura Rathe Fine Art (LRFA), announces the exhibition, *'Iconic Patterns,'* featuring new works by acclaimed artist duo, Stallman, and contemporary mixed media artist, Robert Mars, with an opening reception on Saturday, November 18th from 5-8pm.

Though their work differs greatly in terms of technique, subject, and medium, Stallman and Mars share an interest in creating dynamic compositions that incorporate energetic forms, patterns, and colors. LRFA's first exhibition featuring the work of Robert Mars, *'Iconic Patterns,'* will be on view through December 30, 2017.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Based in the Pacific Northwest, artists Stephen Stum and Jason Hallman (collectively known as Stallman) meld their creative energies to produce mesmerizing works that fall somewhere between the categories of painting and sculpture. Since 2012, they have collaborated on their *Canvas on Edge* series, which molds painted strips of canvas into compositions that shift in color and form depending on the viewer's perspective. The strips' painted edges gather to create elevated line drawings that recall cellular processes and organic forms drawn from nature.

Represented in five states, Stallman have exhibited their work in such far-flung cities as New York, Seattle, Chicago, Miami, and Laguna Beach, California. Recently awarded the Carol Duke Artist Award of Excellence from the Bellevue Art Museum ARTSfair, their work has also been featured in many publications, including *Vanguard Seattle*, *My Modern Met*, *LUXE Interiors + Design*, and *Fahrenheit* magazine.

Robert Mars's mixed media works layer vintage paper ephemera, acrylic polymer image transfers, and hand-painted elements to reveal striking contemporary visions of America's past. Chronicling the artist's fascination with 50s and 60s American iconography, Mars's work depicts popular consumer goods and architectural and mechanical icons of the era, alongside striking portraits of bygone celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, and Audrey Hepburn. Mars's careful manipulation of color, text, and symbol transform these age-old icons into images that resonate with renewed contemporary vitality.

A graduate of Parsons School of Design and currently based in Connecticut, Robert Mars has exhibited his work worldwide in such cities as Munich, Tokyo, Amsterdam, London, New York, Los Angeles, and Paris. In 2016 the Evansville Museum of Art in Indiana hosted a solo exhibition of his work, which is also permanently held in the collections of the Coral Springs Museum of Art, the International Museum of Collage, and the New Bedford Art Museum.

ABOUT LAURA RATHE FINE ART

With over 25 years' experience in the industry, gallery owner, Laura Rathe, started her career working as a private art dealer before establishing Laura Rathe Fine Art (LRFA) in 1998 in Houston, Texas. LRFA now operates out of two locations in Houston and a third gallery in Dallas on Dragon Street, the city's premiere arts district destination. Since the gallery's inception, LRFA has established itself as a leading contemporary art venue, offering an impressive range of exhibitions and programming to its patrons in both cities.

LRFA represents a dynamic roster of established and mid-career contemporary artists working in a variety of media, many of whom have been acquired into world-renowned private, corporate, and museum collections. Various clientele include BBVA Compass, HKS Architects, Wells Fargo, W Hotels, UT Southwestern, and Halliburton. LRFA also participates in a number of prominent art fairs including CONTEXT Art Miami, Art Southampton, Art Wynwood, the Houston Fine Art Fair, Texas Contemporary, and the Dallas Art Fair.

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