
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas Design District
1130 Dragon St., Suite 130
Dallas, TX 75207

CASSANDRIA BLACKMORE / MICHAEL SCHULTHEIS

BREAKTHROUGH

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

(Dallas, TX, December 5, 2017) – Dallas Design District gallery, Laura Rathe Fine Art (LRFA), announces the exhibition, '*BREAKTHROUGH*,' featuring new works by contemporary West Coast artists, Cassandra Blackmore and Michael Schultheis, with an opening reception on Saturday, January 6th from 5-8pm. Blackmore and Schultheis will also give an artist talk beginning at 6:45pm.

Based in Santa Barbara, California, Cassandra Blackmore creates colorful abstract works from shattered and meticulously reconstructed reverse glass paintings. Seattle-based artist, Michael Schultheis, builds his compositions through successive layers of mathematical notations and geometric forms that collectively appear suspended in ethereal spaces masterfully rendered in acrylic paint.

Though they work in diverging techniques and media, the pairing of works by Blackmore and Schultheis reveals the beauty of controlled chaos and the remarkable tension between restrained and intuitive gesture. This will be LRFA's first exhibition featuring the work of Cassandra Blackmore. '*BREAKTHROUGH*' will be on view through February 10, 2018.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

For more than 25 years, Cassandra Blackmore has perfected her technique of shattering and reassembling her reverse glass paintings to create extraordinarily colorful and emotionally powerful works of art. She paints both abstract bursts of color and highly detailed figurative images on the backs of glass sheets, which she then shatters and reassembles to create finished works that are inherently unpredictable. Blackmore says, "in a way, the artist is sort of pulled out of the equation at the end, and the glass has the final say." Baring shimmering lines that radiate from the points where Blackmore strikes each painting, the finished works are remarkably vibrant, perpetually freezing these dramatic collisions for the viewer.

The work of Cassandra Blackmore is exhibited internationally and permanently held in the collections of the Crocker Art Museum, the Bronfman Collection, the Gates Collection, Neiman Marcus, the University of Washington, MGM Center, the Floyd and Delores Jones Playhouse Theatre, Pacific Central Bank, the City of Seattle, Washington State Arts Commission, and Deloitte Consulting, among others. Blackmore is also a recipient of the prestigious Hauberg Fellowship for painting and in 2006 she was honored as the Renwick Smithsonian artist of the month.

Likening the canvas to a chalkboard, contemporary artist, Michael Schultheis creates abstract paintings consisting of many layers of mathematical notations and expressionist drawings rendered in acrylic paint. Blending measurable, scientific formulas with an intuitive approach to color and gesture, the artist translates his observations of the material world into marvelous works of art that describe the dynamic nature of relationships, both geometric and social. Rooted in the histories of Abstract Expressionism and ancient Greek geometry, the work of Michael Schultheis explores the form and motion of three-dimensional objects; human experiences and relationships; and ultimately the interconnectedness of life.

The work of Michael Schultheis has been shown in over 40 solo exhibitions across the country and is permanently held in the collections of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington D.C., the Tacoma Art Museum, and the U.S. Embassies in Greece and Switzerland. Schultheis has also lectured about his work at various universities, and his paintings have been featured in several national media outlets including the Wall Street Journal and NPR.

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.

###

For additional information, details or to schedule an interview, please contact
Janice Meyers, Director Janice@LauraRathe.com &/or 214.761.2000
Auriel Garza, Associate Director Auriel@LauraRathe.com &/or 214.761.2000