

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JUSTIN ADIAN: FORT WORTH
SEPTEMBER 10 – OCTOBER 24, 2015**

OPENING RECEPTION FOR THE ARTIST: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 6-8 PM



(New York, NY)—Skarstedt is pleased to announce *Fort Worth*, a solo exhibition of new works by American artist Justin Adian, titled after his hometown in Texas. Featuring over a dozen abstract paintings, the exhibition marks the artist's first solo presentation with the gallery in the United States. *Justin Adian: Fort Worth* will be on view at **Skarstedt Chelsea (550 West 21st Street)** from September 10th through October 24th, 2015.

Adian creates his bold organic works by stretching oil enamel-painted canvas around foam cushions mounted on wood. Often combining multiple forms to create a three-dimensional composite wall relief, the works straddle the theoretical divide between painting and sculpture with wry assertiveness. Some works will feature Adian's backlit effect, in which he creates a neon glow through layers of paint as opposed to artificial illumination.

All created in 2015, the new works are in a wide range of sizes. The artist has carefully considered the environment of Skarstedt's Chelsea gallery space, creating a site-specific work, which molds to the curvature of the gallery wall. Adian works outside of the traditional framework of painting, extending the surface of his works from front to back.

The exhibition title alludes to an ever-present influence on Adian's work—his time spent in Fort Worth and the attitude of Texas. The artist adds, "I sometimes look at the paintings I made in undergrad and see the same kind of abstraction with relation to shapes and color. The work is visually very different from when I was working in Texas but some of the same notions are still kicking around." His sculpted paintings exude playfulness through the vibrant colors, unique forms, and witty titles, such as *Playback*, *Slip It In*, *Fixin It*, and *Layover*. Adian acknowledges, "I have lived in New York for 14 years and things have certainly changed in my way of thinking, but it seems like a lot of the building blocks have endured."

Skarstedt will also publish a fully illustrated catalogue, including an essay by Texas-born art critic Dave Hickey, to accompany the exhibition.

About Justin Adian:

Justin Adian was born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1976. He graduated with a BFA from the University of North Texas in 2000, and an MFA from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of Art in 2003.

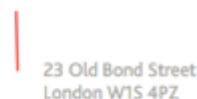
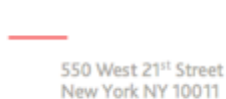
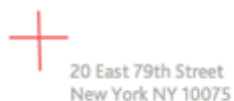
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Selected exhibitions include Half Gallery, New York, NY, 2015; Skarstedt, London, 2014; Luxembourg & Dayan, New York, NY, 2014; Half Gallery, New York, NY, 2013; Blackston, New York, NY, 2012; Martos Gallery, New York, NY, 2012; Bryant Park, New York, NY, 2010-11; Blackston, New York, NY, 2010; Rachel Uffner Gallery in New York, NY, 2010; Jack the Pelican Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, DepARTment Gallery, Toronto Ontario, HBC Gallery, Berlin, Germany, all in 2009; North Hall Gallery, New York, NY, 2008; and at UNT Artspace, Fort Worth, TX, 2007.

Please join the conversation with Skarstedt on Instagram (@skarstedtgallery) via the hashtags #SkarstedtChelsea #Skarstedt #JustinAdian #FortWorth

Image Credit: Justin Adian, *Playback*, 2015. Oil enamel on ester foam and canvas. 72 x 34 x 3 inches. 182.9 x 86.4 x 7.6 cm signed, titled and dated 'Justin Adian "Playback" 2015' (on the reverse). Courtesy Skarstedt New York.

About Skarstedt:



Skarstedt (20 E. 79th Street, New York, NY) was founded in 1994 by Per Skarstedt to mount historical exhibitions by Contemporary European and American artists that had become the core of his specialty in Sweden and New York in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The New York gallery's program focuses on artists of the late Twentieth Century whose work explores concepts such as representation, authorship, identity, and sexual politics across a wide-range of media. Skarstedt's unique relationship with artists allows it to present exhibitions both on the primary and secondary markets, creating a dialogue between the generations.

Skarstedt opened its London space at 23 Old Bond Street in 2012 with the inaugural exhibition *Andy Warhol: The American Indian*. Skarstedt London presents exhibitions and publications devoted to the gallery's established area of expertise while also seeking to evolve and expand its focus. Skarstedt is committed to sharing both its aesthetic perspective and philosophical approach through high-quality exhibitions and collaborations with top international museums and private collections.

Skarstedt opened its Chelsea space at 550 W. 21st Street in May 2014 with the inaugural exhibition *Klein and Warhol: Fire and Oxidation Paintings*, adding to the gallery's existing locations on New York's Upper East Side and in London. The additional gallery space enables Skarstedt to expand on its core program of museum-quality, historically researched exhibitions from modern and contemporary masters.

The gallery works with the following artists and artists' estates: Francis Bacon, John Baldessari, Georg Baselitz, George Condo, Carroll Dunham, Eric Fischl, Peter Fischli & David Weiss, Lucio Fontana, Günther Förg, Keith Haring, Jenny Holzer, Mike Kelley, Martin Kippenberger, Yves Klein, Barbara Kruger, Louise Lawler, Sherrie Levine, Robert Mapplethorpe, Juan Muñoz, Cady Noland, Albert Oehlen, Richard Prince, David Salle, Thomas Schütte, Cindy Sherman, Rosemarie Trockel, Andy Warhol, Franz West, and Christopher Wool.

Media Contacts:

Liza Eliano, FITZ & CO, liza.eliano@fitzandco.com, 646-589-0921

Jenny Isakowitz, FITZ & CO, jenny@fitzandco.com, 646-589-0923