

KOHN GALLERY

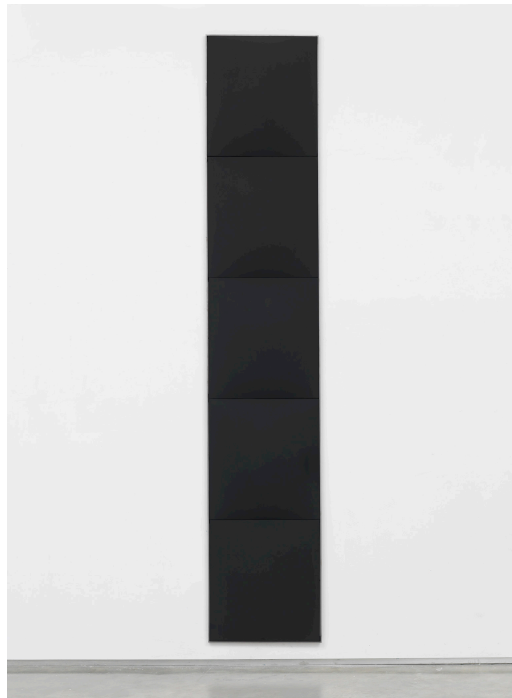
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEAN LEVIN

XTC

Opening Reception: January 16, 2016

Exhibition on view through February 27, 2016



Los Angeles, California – Dean Levin’s solo exhibition at Kohn Gallery, the artist’s first in Los Angeles, presents a refined iteration of Levin’s ongoing investigation into space, perception, and architecture. At once conceptually utilizing and physically inhabiting the gallery space, the works on view offer discrete moments of architectural deconstruction and reconfiguration, prompting the viewer to objectively consider the space itself, while maintaining a subjective engagement

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with the resultant products of Levin's investigatory gesture. Made up of three separate sculptural "vignettes" demarcated by discrete swaths of carpet on the gallery floor, the exhibition can be viewed as an experiential installation whose totality is more than the sum of its various formal parts.

The artist's serial practice comprises individual but inter-related and ever-evolving projects, three of which are seen here in new and developed forms. Levin's mirror diptychs – mirrored panels printed with enlarged hand-drawn grids paired with monochrome canvases – are now expanded into multiplied groupings which can be presented in myriad configurations, the centerpiece of which is the 4-part, freestanding "X" one encounters upon entrance into the gallery. The three configurations on view are based on various architectural aspects of the space itself, as seen in the gallery's aerial floor plan. The three new wooden line sculptures presented in relation to these sculptures are similarly enlarged iterations from already-existent plans, in this case the imperfect lines seen on the mirrored panels – the human hand of the artist, blown up, scrutinized and embodied in three dimensions. Specifically presented in conjunction with their particular source material, these works emphasize the tension between the man- and machine-made, specifically what is both lost and found in their translation. Finally, Levin's 5-part convex paintings – a totemic new version of his original diptychs – are seen here together for the first time, punctuating each discrete sculptural moment with their sensuous and ominous presence, which is reflected throughout as one moves through Levin's carefully crafted scenes.

About Dean Levin

Dean Levin's (b. 1988) background in architecture gives form to his study of light, color, and space. With his sculptures, paintings, and installations, Levin creates a structural presence through a clash of industrial and traditional art materials, a tension emphasized by his ongoing interest in mechanical reproduction vs. the hand of the artist. Levin deftly sources the language of minimalism in works that respond to the ever-increasing dominance of grid-like systems and

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computations in contemporary life. His design-driven, process-based abstract works are at once deliberate and organic, metaphysical and reflective in nature, a nod to the **Light and Space** Movement of the 1970s. Levin grew up in Los Angeles where he was surrounded by the art and artists from the Movement such as, John McCracken, Peter Alexander and Larry Bell, to name a few. Levin works in New York and earlier this year had his first solo exhibition at Marianne Boesky, New York where he is presently a part of their roster.

About Kohn Gallery

Since its establishment in 1985 by former Flash Art editor Michael Kohn, Kohn Gallery has presented historically significant exhibitions in Los Angeles alongside exciting contemporary exhibitions, creating meaningful contexts to establish links to the greater art historical continuum. Significant exhibitions include Andy Warhol's Campbell's Soup Boxes in December 1986, which opened just weeks before the artist's untimely death; She: Works by Richard Prince and Wallace Berman which brought together—for the first time—two generations of leading artists from different coasts; Bruce Conner: Work from the 1970s, which inspired the artist's first solo retrospective in Europe at the Kunsthalle Wien and Kunsthalle Zurich (2010). Exhibitions of important New York-based artists have included new works by Christopher Wool, Richard Tuttle, Mark Tansey, Kenny Scharf, and Keith Haring. Kohn Gallery represents important West Coast artists with long careers and rich histories such as Larry Bell, Joe Goode and Lita Albuquerque, as well as the Estates of Bruce Conner, Wallace Berman, John Altoon and Charles Brittin. Finally, Kohn Gallery boasts an exciting roster of emerging and mid-career artists including Simmons & Burke, Ryan McGinness, Rosa Loy, Dennis Hollingsworth, Mark Ryden, Eddie Martinez, Tom LaDuke and Troika. Visit kohngallery.com for the latest information on upcoming exhibitions.

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using the #LevinKohn hashtag when posting.

Gallery Contact: Kohn Gallery

Samantha Glaser

samantha@kohngallery.com

(323) 461-3311

Media Contact: FITZ & CO

Taylor Maatman

taylor.maatman@fitzandco.com

(646) 589-0926

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