

NEWS RELEASE

November 15, 2013

DOUGLASS FREED: Reflective Landscapes

CHARLES P. REAY

1913-2013 (Front Room)

VAN McELWEE

And/Or (New Media Room)**Opening Reception:**

Friday, December 6, 2013, 5-9 pm

Dates of the Exhibition:

December 6, 2013 – January 11, 2014

Upcoming First Fridays In Grand Center

November 1 and December 6, 2013

For further information and images, please contact:

Bruno L. David, Director

Public Hours: Wednesday through Saturday

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

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**BRUNO DAVID GALLERY PRESENTS AN EXHIBITION BY DOUGLASS FREED**

ST. LOUIS, MO (November 15, 2013) — Bruno David Gallery announces an exhibition titled *Reflective Landscapes* by **Douglass Freed**, on view from December 6, 2013 to January 11, 2014. The opening preview will be **Friday, December 6, 2013** from 5 to 9 pm. First Fridays in Grand Center will also be on the same night.

The landscapes of Douglass Freed can seldom be contained to one canvas. His minimalistic and almost ambiguous images of horizons, clouds, and bodies of water pour onto adjoining spaces where their forms shift in color and light as if they have transformed into entirely different pieces, but they remain undeniably suited to one another. While his pieces vary from quiet, monochromatic works to fully orchestrated chromatic ones, in either sense, he creates places that simultaneously imply reality and a dreamlike, even spiritual, serenity. He captures and holds onto the viewer's gaze, creating an experience that few can. Through his harmonious use of blended color, texture, and structure, Freed finds the grey area between traditional landscape painting and its abstraction into color fields.

Freed has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas and is a nationally exhibiting artist with over fifty solo exhibitions, as well as an Art Curator. He has had work published in over sixty reviews and publications including *The New York Times*, *The New York Art Review*, *The New Art Examiner*, *Art in America*, *Arts Magazine*, *Kansas City Review*, *Kansas City Star*, *The St. Louis Tribune*, and *New American Paintings*.



In the **Front Room**, the gallery presents an exhibition by **Charles P. Reay** titled *1913-2013*. In celebration of the centennial year of the creation of Marcel Duchamp's *Bicycle Wheel* (1913), *Tricycle Wheel* (2013) holds up a mirror to the original object, reflecting its materiality in a form for our time drawn from Ikea and Big Wheel. Thus informed, this reflection of Duchamp's idea becomes appropriate for this the new century. Duchamp did not think of *Bicycle Wheel* as a work of art, describing his fabrication as "just a distraction"... saying later "I didn't have any special reason to do it, or to describe anything." It was an amusement... "to see the wheel turning was very soothing and comforting... I enjoy looking at it just as I enjoy looking at flames dancing in the fireplace".

Both pieces confront the momentous question posed by Marcel Duchamp, "Can one make works which are not works of 'art'". Being an amusement about something, *Tricycle Wheel* (2013) says "No"... though as a precursor to the readymade "it's a form of denying the possibility of defining art."

In the **New Media Room**, the gallery presents a video by **Van McElwee** titled, *And/Or*. In this Guggenheim Fellowship project, dancer Kelsey Lapointe wanders through an invisible maze and a million levels of video.

Van McElwee's body of video work includes over sixty single channel pieces, installations, and web projects. Grants and awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship, The American Film Institute Independent Filmmaker Award, The National Endowment for the Arts Independent Production Fund (seven time recipient), and a travel grant from the Government of India. McElwee's work has been exhibited extensively worldwide and is represented by The Kitchen in New York, Heure Exquise! in France, LUX in the UK, the Inter Media Art Institute in Germany, Bruno David Gallery in St. Louis, and Trabant Gallery in Austria. McElwee is Professor of Electronic and Photographic Media at Webster University in St. Louis. This work was funded by The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.



Photos:

Douglass Freed: *Memoir*, 2013. Oil on canvas, 48 x 75 inches (diptych)

Charles P. Reay: *Tricycle Wheel*, 2013. Molded plastic, steel, vinyl. 31 x 15 x 12 inches, Edition of 10

Van McElwee: *And/Or*, 2011. Still from video, 7:10 minutes with sound

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**BRUNO DAVID GALLERY / EIGHTH SEASON
2013 – 2014 ART PROGRAM**

LESLIE LASKEY	September 2013
BILL KOHN	October 2013
DANIEL RAEDEKE	November 2013
DOUGLASS FREED	December 2013
SHANE SIMMONS	March 2014
CARMON COLANGELO	April 2014

ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Specializing in contemporary art, Bruno David Gallery has been a leading art gallery since its establishment in 2005. Bruno David represents some of the most innovative artists practicing in St. Louis, along with artists of international reputation. Located in a renovated industrial building in Midtown St. Louis, Grand Center arts district, the Gallery is directly opposite the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM), and is in close proximity to the Sheldon Art Galleries, The Fox Theatre, and Powell Symphony Hall. Bruno David Gallery's art program introduces new contemporary art to local gallery visitors, and is discussed in publications including, *Art in America*, *Art Papers*, *ArtNet Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

See our videos/interviews on **VIMEO** at <http://www.vimeo.com/brunodavidgaller> and on

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