

SALOMONARTSGALLERY

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February 8-22nd, 2017

VIP Press viewing: Wednesday, February 8th, 5- 7 pm

Opening Reception: Wednesday, February 8th, 7pm to 9pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MATTER IN MOVEMENT

Salomon Arts Gallery is honored to present **Matter in Movement**, the Art Photography of **Mitchel Gray**: “Bodies in Action” and abstract expressionist paintings by **Evan Sebastian Lagache**.

Through painting and photography, this exhibition unveils bodies in motion photography of Mr.Gray in direct contrast with the abstract expressionist painting by Mr. Lagache bridging this two opposite mediums exploring the idea of inertia, action, abstraction and pure form. The maturity in Mitchel Gray’s work captures the nanosecond action dynamic of champion bodies in motion. The relationship of form, gravity, timing as oppose to abstraction, formless and space as this exhibit represents both artists’ defining moment.

The seasoned artist (Mitchel) and the emerging artist (Lagache) work with dual visions in contrast to exhibit correlating the process of painting and photography with the refraction of light through the lenses capturing the image and the outcome of their split-second emotional decisions.

Emerging artist, Evan Sebastian Lagache, describes his work as a performance with his canvas. This concept grew out of three ideas: By patiently balancing the wet acrylic color blazing the canvas frame, by chasing the timing of the paint, or by planking beneath its cover. His technique grew out of using moving body parts to organically guide the direction of the flowing wet colors. This contrast develops like a visual symphony, directed by the Artist and orchestrated by manipulating the Dual Mediums.

BODIES IN ACTION - A SERIES OF UNIQUE PHOTOGRAPHS “Bodies in Action” is an ongoing photographic series that Mitchel Gray began in late 2014, the result of a three-year exploration. The concept behind the series is to illustrate what the bodies of great athletes are actually doing under all the equipment, padding, and uniforms, as they participate in their sport. The result is a uniquely artful, dramatic, and informative style. All of the photos were shot in Mitchel’s New York City studio, where he employs a distinctive and exacting lighting approach, designed to emphasize musculature action and grace. But there is another aspect that makes these photos a “first” in the genre. ***Each photo in the series appears to have two people in it, when there is actually only one--the same person shot in opposition to themselves.*** This approach allows Mitchel to illustrate two sides of the same body in one frame, seamlessly and within the construct of the action. Many of the subjects are Olympians, professional athletes, and professional dancers with companies such as the New York City Ballet and the Metropolitan Opera. Mitchel has enjoyed the cooperation of the U.S. Olympic Committee and the New York Athletic Club in the creation of “Bodies in Action”. Elements of the series have been featured in the National Art Museum of Sport, and will be featured in a gallery show in New York from February 8th through February 22, 2017.

ABOUT MITCHEL GRAY Mitchel Gray has been a photographer, videographer, and an author for over 35 years. He has two best-selling books, “The Lingerie Book” and “Lingerie Fantasies” (St. Martin’s Press), and he has illustrated many more, particularly in the active lifestyle/health and fitness field. His photographs have graced over 100 magazine covers, more than 1,000 magazine pages in the fashion and beauty industry, as well as the sports and fitness world. His work has appeared in Men’s Health (all editions), Men’s Fitness, Men’s Health Muscle (Germany), Muscle & Fitness, M&F Hers, Runners World, Bicycling,

Fitness, and The Sporting News, including hundreds of advertising pages for various clients around the globe. In recent years, much of his portrait work has focused on sports celebrities, ranging from Tom Brady to Derek Jeter. His Fine Art work has been shown in galleries in both the U.S. and Europe.

EVAN SEBASTIAN LAGACHE At an early age, Evan Sebastian Lagache began developing his artistic vision. Out of 4,000 high school students, he was accepted by the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts, a creative developmental school built and frequented by Tony Bennett and his wife, Susan Benedetto.

Evan began collecting material from the street--doors, windows, skateboards, and tables became his basis for art design. He even set up his urban outdoor art studio at the base of the Washington Square Monument, where an NYU art instructor spotted his work and offered him a scholarship.

After being discovered by Julie Keyes Art Consulting, he was invited to debut in the "View from Within" exhibition of working artists at the Marc Borghi Gallery on the Upper East Side. The Cupping Room followed, featuring "Deep Blue," showcasing his signature use of controlled lines. At a solo show at the Public Factory, Evan was approached by curator Robert Curcio to be part of the "20 under 20, Younger than Rimbaud" exhibition at Elga Wimmer Gallery in Chelsea Arts District. Curcio later featured a solo painting by Evan in an exhibit at the National Arts Club, where the painting was purchased by Saturday Night Live comedienne Maya Rudolph.

During Art Basel week, Evan was a featured artist with Julie Keyes at the X Contemporary Art Fair at the Eden Roc in Miami Beach.

Evan's work is currently on display at the annual Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, Florida. This Dual Show features an overview of 2016's signature themes and explorations in the "Matter in Movement" exhibition.

Evan would like to thank Salomon Arts Gallery, Mitchel Gray and Blick Art Materials for their generous support. He is pleased to be invited to be part of "Matter in Movement." Words by the Artist...

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