

PRESS RELEASE

Gitler & _____

Presents Damien Hoar de Galvan:
Wot's... uh the deal?

March 11 – March 31, 2017

Opening reception: Saturday, Mar 11, 5-8 PM

And Susan Carr: *Headspace*

April 1 – April 20, 2017

Opening reception: Saturday, Apr 1, 5-8 pm

(March 7, 2017) Gitler & _____ is proud to present back-to-back solo shows from **Damien Hoar de Galvan: *Wot's... uh the deal?*** and **Susan Carr: *Headspace***. Both artists live and work in Massachusetts, and were educated at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts (SMFA).

Damien Hoar de Galvan's show—the namesake of which is borrowed from a 1972 Pink Floyd song—comprises a collection of new sculpture made from found wood pieces bound together with paint and glue. Hoar de Galvan's subject matter is his process; his objects are the result of a journey in which he navigates whatever dimensions the media allows, resulting in a tenuous balance. In response to the limitations reclaimed media poses, Hoar de Galvan relishes the freedom of creation, evidenced by his treatment of each piece as a composition of navigable planes, and the relationships he forges between color and line and the gradations therein, however subtle or grounded.

An open-endedness of form prevails within the finite boundaries Hoar de Galvan creates; intersections are stacked upon one another, deviating course as the materials dictate, and yielding myriad geometric anomalies — straight and sinuous lines, arcs, and bands of color are all firmly bound, creating the veins of these architectural-cum-biomorphic forms.

Susan Carr's *Headspace* will be composed of new and recent mixed-media works, including painting and sculpture as well as found wood pieces, all while using oil paint as



Damien Hoar de Galvan, *Portrait*, 2016; wood, paint, colored pencil, glue, 14x12x3 in.



Susan Carr, *Bardo of Luminous Color*, 2016; oil, mixed media on wood, 16x8½ in.

the common denominator. Carr's own abstract language is angular and painterly; her broad brushstrokes are cast defiantly at times throughout the picture plane, creating a visual struggle that feels deliberate and personal, while at other moments her motions yield fluid forms within an intimate color field. To whatever extent Carr does incorporate autobiographical references in her work, the artist's poetry is rendered in viscous oil, and her storytelling style can be likened to oral history – in the moment and evolving with each daub and swipe.

Carr's show title *Headspace* is a reference to her artistic process, and the vital roles that meditation and concentration play as she renders paintings in sculptural form. These deconstructivist approach allows her, according to Carr, "a sense of freedom and timelessness...through headspace I learn the language of making."

Hoar de Galvan's and Carr's respective small-scale compositions appear impenetrable at moments, but as one explores these works, each artist's discreet and complex touches reveal themselves. What appears fragile at first glance may in fact be a particular work's core strength. Colors both vivid and muted are juxtaposed to wondrous effect, and the limits of geometric abstraction are flirted with at virtually every turn.

Damien Hoar de Galvan (b.1979, Northampton, MA) lives and works in Boston. After studying behavioral science as an undergraduate he decided to take a different path as an artist. He completed the post-baccalaureate program at SMFA in 2008. Recently Hoar de Galvan has exhibited at the Boston Center for the Arts, Carroll and Sons (Boston), Studio E Gallery (Seattle), and Brilliant Champions (Brooklyn).

Susan Carr attended SMFA and Tufts University, earning her MFA in 2003. She is a multi-media artist incorporating oil painting into her sculptures and has recently begun a ceramics practice. Carr enjoys working in a wide range of styles and mediums while always keeping oil painting in the forefront of her practice. Carr is now working on a series of comic relief pieces in ceramic, drawings that reference fumetti and other forms of simple comical imagery loaded with personal meaning within her drawings. Her paintings and sculpture that incorporate found wood and other objects are meaningful as they embody a historical component of place and time. Carr has exhibited all over the country, most recently at DAVID&SCHWEITZER (Brooklyn), Complex B Gallery (Atlanta) and How's Howard? Art Space (Boston). She lives and works in Falmouth, MA.

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Gitler & is located at 3629 Broadway in Hamilton Heights, NYC. The gallery is dedicated to showcasing rising artists from around the world. For more info visit www.gitlerand.com

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