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***HIDENORI ISHII: THE BLACK LAKE* opens Friday October 23rd at Erin Cluley Gallery**

[Dallas, Texas – September 24, 2015] **ERIN CLULEY GALLERY** is pleased to announce an exhibition by New York artist **HIDENORI ISHII** October 23rd through November 21st, 2015. The exhibition will open with a reception for the artist on Friday October 23rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

In his first solo exhibition with the gallery, HIDENORI ISHII will present ***THE BLACK LAKE*** – an exhibition of painting and site-specific installation integrating ideas of psychological systems, man's affect on the environment and the artist's collection of idiosyncrasies. These works were created in response to the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant meltdown and its aftermath in Japan. Ishii uses the incident to examine aspects of atmosphere, landscape, history, politics and the human condition and its psychology. The new body of work explores physical and metaphysical aesthetics of the Japanese landmark's transformations. From the manmade structures being overtaken by local fauna to his childhood connection to the area, Ishii develops a visual language that reveals a hopeful environment where humans and nature coexist and sustain one another.

The title of the exhibition ***THE BLACK LAKE*** makes reference to a place of reflection – in both the metaphorical sense of the resulting trauma caused to a group of people; and in the physical sense of residual radioactive material being released into the atmosphere.

His body of work entitled *IcePlants* represents the visual and symbolic dialogue between man's intention and nature's inevitabilities – an ongoing concept which the artist explores. Ishii's use of Kuricoat C-720 in his paintings, the same synthetic green resin used to prevent radiation from becoming airborne in the area, is used to create a contrast between organic imagery and artificial material.

In an accompanying body of work titled *Follow the Map*, Ishii creates a collection of pieces that are unlike other monumental works. Making the works physically small and object-like, Ishii is implying something being easily carried away or swept away in the wind. Ideas of memory, relationship, and the ethereal are intertwined as a commentary on the forced evacuation of the inhabitants of Fukushima as well as other's forced movement around the world and the geographical implications.

HIDENORI ISHII was born in 1978 in Yonezawa, Japan. Ishii is a graduate of the Hoffberger School of Painting at the Maryland Institute College of Art and a Joan Mitchell MFA Fellowship Nominee. He has shown in New York, Maryland, and Texas. Ishii currently lives and works in Long Island City, New York. He is represented by Erin Cluley Gallery in Dallas, Texas.

About Erin Cluley Gallery

Erin Cluley Gallery is a contemporary art gallery representing emerging and mid-career artists from Dallas and the United States. The gallery presents a provocative program of artists working in both traditional and alternative forms including painting, sculpture, new media, photography, sculptural installation and public intervention.

The 2000 square foot space joined a creative movement in the West Dallas/ Trinity Groves development at the foot of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge in West.

In conjunction with mounting exhibitions inside the gallery space, Erin Cluley Gallery will maintain a focus on presenting public projects conceptualized by its artists. Negotiating projects on the artists' behalf, the gallery will make this an ongoing component of the exhibition program and an impactful contribution to public art intervention in Dallas.

Erin Cluley served as the Director of Exhibitions at Dallas Contemporary from 2009 - 2014 where she worked on the production of exhibitions by Zoe Crosher, Gabriel Dawe, K8 Hardy, Georg Herold, Aaron Parazette, Richard Phillips, John Pomara, Rob Pruitt, Jennifer Rubell, Julian Schnabel, Juergen Teller, Walter Van Beirendonck, Inez & Vinoodh, Erwin Wurm and others. Erin Cluley also worked with artists and their crews producing murals in Dallas by Shepard Fairey, Soner, JMR, Sourgrapes, Faile, Michael Sieben and JR.

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