

RYAN McGINNESS

15 OCTOBER – 14 NOVEMBER 2020

NEW YORK – MILES McENERY GALLERY is pleased to announce *Mindscales*— a presentation of 72 new paintings by Ryan McGinness. The exhibition, marking the artist’s first New York solo show in five years, will open on 15 October at 520 West 21st Street and remain on view through 14 November 2020. *Mindscales* is accompanied by a fully illustrated publication featuring an essay by Jori Finkel and an interview with Eric Shiner.



Mindscape 57, 2019.
Acrylic and metal leaf on linen, 36 x 36 inches, 91.4 x 91.4 cm

Mindscales—a singular installation comprising a painting of paintings— points to the artist’s interest in exploring the tension between the site-specificity of murals and the commodification of canvas painting that began in the 17th century. McGinness is versed in both indoor and outdoor installations, and with *Mindscales*, he experiments with at once immersing the viewer in the mural and liberating the mural from its architectural confines. As Jori Finkel notes in her catalogue essay *Ryan McGinness and his Micro-Macro Canvas Mural*, “He has found a way to have his mural cake and eat it—or slice it up...—too.”

The installation reveals the dichotomy between an exuberant and irrepressible universe that exists beneath the relatively serene superficial. Materialized in pearlescent and fluorescent paints overlaid with metal leaf, it forces a high-fidelity in-person viewing experience of the work. Manifested on an architectural scale, the 72 different canvases displayed in nine standard sizes share common motifs and colors in a cohesive

127-foot-long composition. In conceptualizing *Mindscales*, McGinness left no detail unattended. The number 72 reflects the year of his birth; the height of six feet parallels his own height, causing an augmented physiological recognition for viewers of the installation; and the 127-foot-long length represents the site-specificity of the gallery space.

McGinness grew up in the skate and surf culture of Virginia Beach where he learned to silkscreen in high school. While at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, he further developed his interest in screen-painting as a curatorial assistant at The Andy Warhol Museum. Materially rooted in the Warholian tradition, McGinness distinguishes his own acrylic on canvas painting practice with the reminder that while Warhol was interested in anti-art, he, conversely, is acutely interested in art itself. He continually seeks the essential truth within his original iconic drawings, freed from both the artist and spectator.

The *Mindscales*’ dense, hyperactive, street-art inspired imagery features a profusion of images pulled from the artist’s vast lexicon of symbols: figures, hands, flowers, album covers, studio tools and psychedelic images. Resembling how our minds work—as random access memories, McGinness calls this system “a periodic table” and regularly combines visual elements to create his final composition. Similar to the alchemy visible in Hieronymous Bosch’s *Garden of Earthly Delights*, McGinness intends for the works to have high impact when viewed from afar. They simultaneously reveal themselves to be particularly rewarding when viewed up close, a standpoint from which the viewer is able to get lost in a world of details.

RYAN McGINNESS (b. 1972 in Virginia Beach, VA) received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. He also worked as a curatorial assistant at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, PA.

Recent solo exhibitions include “Mindscales,” Miles McEnergy Gallery, New York, NY; “Warhol Flower Icons,” Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, CO; “Mother & Child,” Harper’s Books, East Hampton, NY; “Warhol Flower Icons,” Nanzuka, Hong Kong, China, and Bangkok, Thailand; “Studio Views,” Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI; “Ocular Evidence,” Quint Gallery, San Diego, CA; “#metadata,” Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA and “Figure Drawings,” Pace Prints, New York, NY.

Miles McEnergy Gallery

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His work is included in the permanent collections of:

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY
MUSAC, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo
de Castilla y León, León, Spain
Taguchi Art Collection, Tokyo, Japan
Charles Saatchi Collection, London, United Kingdom
Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, OH
Saastamoinen Foundation, EMMA - Espoo Museum
of Modern Art, Espoo, Finland
New York Public Library, New York, NY
Peter Norton Family Foundation, Santa Monica, CA

Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH
UBS Art Collection, New York, NY
JPMorgan Chase Art Collection, New York, NY
MTV Networks, New York, NY
Neuberger Berman Collection, New York, NY
Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, MO
Schwab Family Collection, San Francisco, CA
Sammlung Plum & AkzoNobel Art Foundation,
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Richard E. Jacobs Group Collection, Westlake, OH
The Shockey Family Collection
Cora Diamond Corporation, New York, NY
Phillip Schrager Collection of Contemporary
Art, Omaha, NE

RYAN McGINNESS lives and works in New York, NY.

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Miles McEnergy Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM and by appointment.

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