

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# ROY DOWELL

3 FEBRUARY – 12 MARCH 2022

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK – MILES McENERY GALLERY** is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent works by Roy Dowell. The artist's second solo exhibition with the gallery will open on 3 February at 511 West 22nd Street and remain on view through 12 March 2022. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated publication featuring an essay by Ed Schad.

Dowell's commitment to gathering and combining images is at the heart of his practice. The disparate qualities of collage and assemblage are rendered in acrylic paint on linen over panel. From early in his career, the artist has engaged with a layering of diverse and scattered references from all over the world, both iconic and personal, working and reworking his materials until they are remade into something with visual impact. His use of color, pattern, folk motifs, and design elements, all with the presence of a handmade and open touch, stems from an appreciation and interest in world cultures and self-taught arts.

Schad explains that in Dowell's practice, the ability for the viewer to move between and beyond referential registers is part of the open spirit of the work. "Many of Dowell's recent paintings have organizing features (circles, diamonds, open umbrellas, crosses, carbide blades) that then wander, dissolve, radiate, run, or simply ease into the pattern and texture, and the compositional oddities that unseat their primacy. They stare at you, hold you at attention, then soften and deepen into intricate personalities. Dowell's canvases, most often vertical, hold abstraction inside their frames like the beliefs and fantasies of individual brains, so often laced with idiosyncrasy and speaking in their own dialects."

In blending various shapes and colors together, Dowell's paintings convey emotional power through complicated and textured forms of reflection, joy, and pain, all at once. "This work, and in fact all of my work, attempts to engage, challenge and provoke the viewer. I ask questions and invite a dissection and decoding of my work from my audience. I ask the viewer to find themselves in my work. I don't offer answers. There is no definitive conclusion or right answer," Dowell elaborates. The paintings draw the viewer into the image. More rigid designs become tender and human through the process of visual perception and interpretation.

**ROY DOWELL** (b. 1951, in Bronxville, NY) received his Master of Fine Arts and his Bachelor of Arts from the California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA and studied at the California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, CA.

Recent solo exhibitions include Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY (forthcoming); Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY; "Found in Translation," Bolsky Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA; "Some of Me and the Sum of Others," as-is.la, Los Angeles, CA; 1969 Gallery, New York, NY; "Roy Dowell: Mosaics," Tif Sigfrids Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; "Little Tree," Proxy Paris @ Galerie Ygrec, Paris, France; "Roy Dowell: New Work," James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA; "Roy Dowell, New Work," Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., New York, NY; James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA; Various Small Fires, Los Angeles, CA; Proxy Gallery, Culver City, CA; "Roy Dowell: Speaking in Tongues," Galería Nina Menocal, Mexico City, Mexico; Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., New York; "Roy Dowell: New Works on Paper," Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; "Roy Dowell: A Survey Exhibition 1981-2005," Margo Leavin Gallery,



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**Miles McEnery Gallery**

525 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011 | 511 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011 | 520 West 21st Street, New York, NY  
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Los Angeles, CA; “Roy Dowell: New Works,” Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; “Roy Dowell: New Works,” Finesilver Gallery, San Antonio, TX; “Roy Dowell: like love, built on precedent,” Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Curt Marcus Gallery, New York, NY and Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.

Recent group exhibitions include “Abstracted Vocabularies,” Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA; “FEEDBACK” (curated by Helen Molesworth), Jack Shainman Gallery: The School, Kinderhook, NY; “Constellations,” Lennon, Weinberg Inc., New York, NY; “The American Academy Invitational Exhibition of Visual Art,” American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY; “Make/Work” (curated by Jenene Nagy), Los Angeles Valley College, Van Nuys, CA; “Vision Valley” (curated by Adam Miller), Brand Library & Art Center, Glendale, CA; “Synchronicity: a State of Painting,” Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., New York, NY; “Memory Theater” (curated by Srijon Chowdhury), Upfor Gallery, Portland, OR; “A Few Days,” Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., New York, NY; “Salon du Dessin,” Lennon, Weinberg, Inc., New York, NY; “Death Ship” (curated by Adam Miller and Devon Oder), The Pit, Glendale, CA; “Floor Flowers” (curated by David Pagel), Claremont Graduate University Gallery, Claremont, CA; “A Poem to Raoul and Agnes” (curated by Sherman Sam), Ancient & Modern, London, United Kingdom; “Left Coast: Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary Art,” Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA; “California Visual Music” (curated by Marcus Herse), Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, Los Angeles, CA; “Local Fish,” Ernie Wolff Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; “Roy Dowell and Alexander Kroll,” Fredric Snitzer Gallery, Miami, FL; “Split Realities,” Nan Rae Gallery, Woodbury University, Los Angeles, CA; “Made in LA 2012: Los Angeles Biennial,” Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; “Arctic Summer,” Margo Leavin Gallery, Los Angeles, CA and “Viva La Raspberries” (curated by Evan Holloway), Harris Lieberman Gallery, New York, NY.

His work is included in select collections including the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA; Nora Eccles Harrison Museum, Logan, UT; Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA; Phoenix Museum of Art, Phoenix, AZ; San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA and the Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC.

Dowell lives and works in Los Angeles, CA.

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

Press Contact: Kate Greenberg, [kategreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:kategreenberg@gmail.com)

 @miles.mcenery.gallery

Image: *untitled #1181*, 2021, Acrylic paint on linen over panel, 60 x 33 inches, 152.4 x 83.8 cm

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