

Bruno David Gallery's 10th Season

September 2, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

BRUNO DAVID GALLERY
3721 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
SAINT LOUIS MO 63108
1.314.531.3030
Gallery Hours: Wednesday thru Saturday
10:00 am – 5:00 pm and by appointment
info@brunodavidgallery.com

ALEX COUWENBERG

Revisited

September 11 – October 10, 2015

Opening Reception:

Friday, September 11, 2015

6:00 to 9:00 pm

LESLIE LASKEY

A Gathering: Muses-Fates-Furies
Project Room

ERIC MINH SWENSON

EMS International: Based in LA
Media Arts Room

MONIKA WULFERS

Equal Lines
Bruno David Projects



Bruno David Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of paintings
by Los Angeles-based artist Alex Couwenberg.

Marking the artist's third solo exhibition with the gallery, Alex Couwenberg's paintings explore "process" and the "moment" through tightly controlled compositions of paint and mark making. Couwenberg creates images that are inspired by the elements indigenous to his surroundings. The work references and suggests the aesthetic associated with custom car culture, surfing, skateboarding, and music, while glossed over with the sensibility of mid-century modernist design.

Couwenberg's work gives a nod and pays homage to the historical styles of post-war art making associated with Los Angeles and Southern California. His paintings indicate whispers of the visual language used by the hard-edge geometric abstractionist, the Finish Fetish, and Light and Space artists who were influential in shaping the aesthetic of Los Angeles art during the 1950's, 60's, and 70's. Not content to replicate, he uses Eames-era design and hard edge geometric abstraction as points of departure for creating his paintings. His process, an additive and reductive series of moves and passes, creates multilayered environments that are deep and sensual. He harnesses these ideas into harmonious results, reflecting the visual landscape of the world around him.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Bruno David Gallery Publications will publish a catalogue of the artist's work with an exhibition history and bibliography.



Couwenberg received his B.F.A. from Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California and his M.F.A. from the Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California. He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

Video-interview of Alex Couwenberg at his Los Angeles studio by Eric Minh Swenson (2012). Music by The Hitchikers, James Lucchesi, and Mick Cripps.

Watch it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prZ6aGRTWhg>

In the **Project Room**, we are pleased to present a solo exhibition “A Gathering: Muses-Fates-Furies” by **Leslie Laskey**. Mr. Laskey, now 94 years-old, is one of the most successful and experienced working artists in the Saint Louis area. He is an innovative thinker whose work never fails to make an impact.



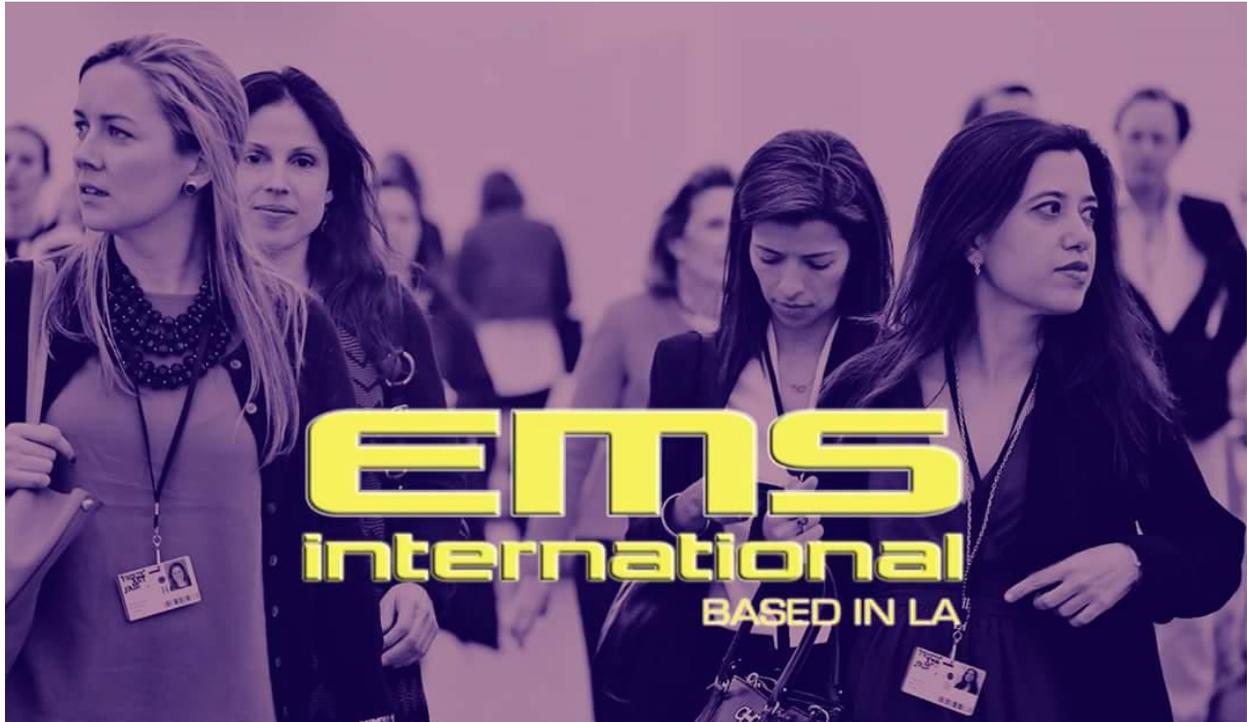
Leslie Laskey’s media of choice is ever changing, and characteristic of his work. In this new oeuvre, he incorporates collage, oil paint, acrylic, and crayon. It is this variety of media and style, which adds to the engaging quality of his work and its subsequent effect on viewers. In conjunction with the exhibition, Bruno David Gallery Publications will publish a catalog on the artist’s work with an exhibition history, bibliography and essay.

Born in 1921, Leslie grew up in Manistee, Michigan, and enlisted in the army the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Trained as a combat engineer, he was among the first troops to land at Omaha Beach on D-Day. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and at the war’s end, liberated prisoners from German concentration camps.

After returning home, he studied at the Institute of Design (now the Illinois Institute of Technology) founded in Chicago by Lászlò Moholy-Nagy, who himself had been the instructor of the basic design course at the Bauhaus. Leslie then continued on to advanced study in design at the University of Indiana, from which he received a master’s degree. Currently, he divides his time between St. Louis and Manistee, Michigan and is a Professor Emeritus of Architecture at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis.

More on Lesley Laskey’ studio practice and the *Laskey Sophomore Design Challenge* at <http://studiol.co/home>

In our newly renovated **Media Arts Room**, the gallery presents a video installation "EMS International: Based in LA" by Los Angeles-based photographer **Eric Minh Swenson**. In this presentation, he covers the life of artists, their art and art openings – from Miami to New York, San Francisco, Hawaii and back to Los Angeles.



Since 2011, Eric Minh Swenson has created over 400 short films which document artists and their processes, as well as gallery and museum exhibitions. Subjects have included Chris Burden, Peter Shire, Cheech Marin, Lisa Adams, Gisela Colón and Don Bachardy. His work is considered to be the most extensive documentation of the Southern California art scene to date.

Swenson has written, and directed four feature length films and a documentary, *Mana*. In addition to his films, documentaries, and photography, Swenson has curated two art shows that focus on California artists: "EMS Sex" at the 2014 Photo Independent Art Fair; and in spring of 2015 "EMS Nude Survey One" at Jamie Brooks Fine Art. They were described as "an eclectic exhibition of sculpture, painting, drawings and photography... ." Eric Minh Swenson was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1971.

More on Eric Minh Swenson' studio practice at <http://thuvanarts.com/> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/skunkkilo>

In our relocated **Bruno David Projects**, the gallery presents a sculpture installation “Equal Lines” by German-born, Chicago-based artist **Monika Wulfers**.



Ms. Wulfers explores the concept of line in minimalist sculptures and paintings, as well as computer generated images and constructs. Various representations of lines and shapes created by lines are seen in her work which draws upon spatial and temporal constructs. She uses two and three dimensions to examine the line and our perception of it.

Monika Wulfers was born in Berlin, Germany. She received her M.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and her B.A. from North Central College, Naperville, Illinois. Wulfers has exhibited her art in such museums as the Museum of West Bohemia, Czech Republic; Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, Illinois; Kunst Mit Eigensinn, Museum Moderner Kunst, Museum des

20.Jahrhunderts, Vienna, Austria; The Art Institute of Chicago; Goethe Institute Chicago; University of California, Riverside, California; Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany; DePaul University, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; The Kemper Collection, Chicago, Illinois.

For visuals and further information, please contact the gallery at info@brunodavidgallery.com or at 1.314.531.3030. Available for interviews: Bruno L. David; Alex Couwenberg, Leslie Laskey, Eric Minh Swenson, and Monika Wulfers.

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ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Specializing in contemporary art, Bruno David Gallery/Bruno David Projects has been a leading art gallery since its establishment in Saint Louis in 2005. Bruno David represents some of the most innovative artists practicing in Saint Louis, along with artists of international reputation. Bruno David Gallery is located in a renovated industrial building in Midtown Saint Louis, Grand Center Arts District, and is directly opposite the Pulitzer Arts Foundation and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM). Bruno David Gallery's art program introduces new contemporary art to local gallery visitors, and is discussed in publications including, *Art in America*, *Art Papers*, *ArtNet Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Follow the gallery on **Twitter** @bdavidgallery & @bdavidprojects

and via the hashtags #BrunoDavidGallery #BrunoDavidProjects #GoSeeArt #BrunoDavidGalleryPublications #AlexCouwenberg #LeslieLaskey #EricMinhSwenson #MonikaWulfers

Visit the artists and their shows on **ARTSY** at artsy.net/bruno-david-gallery

Visit the gallery on **Instagram** at instagram.com/brunodavidgallery/

Facebook ([facebook.com/bruno.david.gallery](https://www.facebook.com/bruno.david.gallery)) and **Google+** (plus.google.com/112677784125453318003)

See our videos/interviews on **VIMEO** (vimeo.com/brunodavidgallery) and on **YouTube** (youtube.com/user/brunodavidgallery)

Read the gallery news and its artists on our blog **GoodArtNews** at goodartnews.com/

Read our eBook publications on **ISSUU** at issuu.com/brunodavidgallery or purchase them at **LULU** lulu.com/spotlight/brunodavidgallerypublications

Bruno David Gallery was first established by Bruno David in New York City (1983) and later in St. Louis (2005).

Images: **Alex Couwenberg**: *Double Dutch*, 2012. Acrylic on canvas, 66 x 80 inches. **Leslie Laskey**: *The Fates*, 2015. Mixed media on board, 20-1/4 x 25-1/4 inches.

Eric Minh Swenson, *EMS International: Based in LA* (still), 2015. **Monika Wulfers**, *Equal Lines, Not a Hexagon* (detail view), 2015. © 2015 Bruno David Gallery, Alex Couwenberg, Leslie Laskey, Eric Minh Swenson and, Monika Wulfers. All International Rights Reserved. Works of individual artists remain the intellectual property and are copyrighted by their respective authors. No unauthorized reproduction, all rights reserved. Gallery approval must be granted prior to reproduction.

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