

JASON VASS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, April 29, 2016

***BEFORE THE BRIDGE:
SELECT WORKS BY
DEBORAH BROWN, DAN CALLIS,
MARK DUTCHER, CYNTHIA MACADAMS,
DOUGLAS TAUSIK AND GENE VASS***

MAY 7 – JUNE 12, 2016

**OPENING SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016 6-8 PM
JASON VASS 1452 E. SIXTH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90021**



LOS ANGELES - Jason Vass is pleased to present *Before the Bridge*, a group exhibition featuring select works by artists: Deborah Brown, Dan Callis, Mark Dutcher, Cynthia MacAdams, Douglas Tausik and Gene Vass. The exhibition presents a dynamic cross section of works in a variety of media, showcasing the diversity of the gallery's evolving roster.

The exhibition marks a moment in the ongoing development and transition of Downtown Los Angeles' Arts District. With the impending demolition of the Sixth Street bridge, immediately adjacent to the gallery, *Before the Bridge* observes a historic transition in the area's changing urban landscape. The artists in the exhibition, some emerging and some established, represent various generations and backgrounds, and share collective, though varied, ties to Los Angeles' dynamic and ever-changing cultural scene.

DEBORAH BROWN

Deborah Brown completed her MFA at UC Irvine in the early 1990s and currently resides in the UK. Fascinated by the attraction and repulsion of corporeal desire, Brown's intensely personal work explores the female body as a libidinally fractured and colonized site of identity and experience. She explores the themes of abjection, lust, disobedience, and feminine sexuality through photography, sculpture, installation and performance-based practices. Brown is subject of an upcoming solo exhibition at the gallery from October 29 - December 17, 2016.

DAN CALLIS

Dan Callis is a visual artist/educator residing in Southern California. He received his MFA from Claremont Graduate University. His work includes painting, drawing, and installation. In addition to his individual studio practice, he has collaborated extensively.

MARK DUTCHER

Mark Dutcher's work is engaged in an ongoing dialogue with the tenets of abstract painting and allegories of the contemporary world. He has been exhibiting his work in Southern California since the early 1990s and has had solo exhibitions at the Huntington Beach Art Center, Santa Monica Museum of Art, and Coagula Curatorial.

CYNTHIA MACADAMS

Hollywood actress turned feminist and influential photographer Cynthia MacAdams created portraits of some of the most influential women of second-wave feminism. Her celebrated book *Emergence* from 1979 captured a nascent and shifting female body politic; a vision of a new empowered, and legitimately powerful, woman. MacAdams has photographed the likes of Patti Smith, Lily Tomlin, and Judy Chicago, among many other feminist icons.



DOUGLAS TAUSIK

Douglas Tausik is a New York-born, and now Los Angeles-based, artist. Tausik creates large-scale, sculptural works, primarily in wood and bronze, which appear as abstract, biometric forms that, at the same time, draw from and reference geometric and classical, figurative sculpture.

GENE VASS

Abstract Expressionist painter and sculptor Gene Vass (1922-1996) studied at the University of Buffalo and did a fellowship at Yale University. His work is included in several prominent public collections including the Albright Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD; Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; and the Whitney Museum of Art, New York, NY.

ABOUT JASON VASS

Situated in the burgeoning arts district neighborhood of Downtown Los Angeles in a 2,700 square foot, space designed to accommodate diverse exhibitions and related programs, the gallery aims to create an exhibition program that offers a historical perspective through the lens of contemporary artists. The gallery is committed to cultivating emerging talent and supporting established artists from around the world. Exhibiting artists include: Luke Austin, Deborah Brown, Dan Callis, Mark Dutcher, Nancy Evans, Cynthia MacAdams and Douglas Tausik. The gallery manages the estate of Gene Vass.

Gallery founder Jason Vass is the son of Gene Vass, the youngest member of NYC's Cedar Tavern abstract expressionist group. His mother, Joan Vass, was a fashion designer and curator at MOMA where he spent much of his youth. His extraordinary parents influenced his eye and his passion for art. In the 1980's Vass was managing partner at contemporary art gallery Patrick Fox in NYC. After moving from New York to Los Angeles, Vass opened his first gallery on Santa Monica's Montana Avenue in 1992 where he developed a reputation as a well-known and internationally respected dealer of posters, prints and limited-edition museum quality fine art lithographs. He has since owned galleries in Santa Monica and Santa Fe.

More info at jasonvass.com

Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11am - 6 pm and Sunday 12 pm - 4 pm.

Image Credits from left to right from top: Dan Callis, *Open*, Oil on Canvas, 2013-2016, 36 x 48 Inches, courtesy the artist; Deborah Brown, *I Thought I Could Handle It*, Fiberglass, 2011, 96 x 42 inches, courtesy the artist; Mark Dutcher, *I Am Hart Crane*, Oil on Canvas, 2013, 79 x 69 Inches, courtesy the artist; Douglas Tausik, *Venus, Wood*, 2016, 63 x 56 inches, photos © Joshua White/JWPictures.com, courtesy the artist.

Beverages graciously provided by ROK Drinks.

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