

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ERIN CLULEY GALLERY

Stephen Ormandy: *Daydreaming*
May 11 – June 15, 2024
Opening Reception: May 11, 5 – 7pm



Stephen Ormandy, *Stereo*, 2024, oil on linen, 59 x 59 in. (150 x 150 cm)

Erin Cluley Gallery is pleased to announce *Daydreaming*, an exhibition of new work by Australian artist, Stephen Ormandy. The exhibition will debut new paintings and sculptures in the artist's signature combination of cubist and pop art aesthetics. *Daydreaming* continues Ormandy's exploration of the relationship between color, shape, and line across media. The artist's newest work looks at how art interacts with everyday life provoking imaginative and emotional psychologies in viewers.

When devising his work, Ormandy incorporates elements of play and spontaneity; tonal balance in his paintings comes about through intuition and his sculptures are built piece-by-piece from cast resin. Rather than eschewing artistic intention — in the vein of Robert Morris and Donald Judd — Ormandy develops a synergistic relationship with his work. Both parties — his work and Ormandy himself — develop together leading to his art's relaxed nature. The artist's work in *Daydreaming* brings together rarified forms and a dynamic palette to import the meditative qualities of abstraction into physical and psychological space.

After graduating from The City Art Institute of Art and Design, Stephen Ormandy co-founded *Dinosaur Designs* a lifestyle brand that seeks to integrate enigmatic design into homewares and jewelry. Though separate from his work in sculpture and painting, the principle of art / design as an invigoration of the everyday dips into his commercial and artistic practices. Rethinking the permeable boundary between fine art and design, *Daydreaming* invites the thoughtful contemplation of art not as separate from life but in close relationship. Ormandy attempts to activate the imaginary impulse within viewers; upon viewing his work one begins to create subjects from the abstract forms. His refinement of the natural environment, figural forms, and architecture places his art close to the heart of life.

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Daydreaming will be the artist's first solo presentation with Erin Cluley Gallery. It will be exhibited concurrently with *STATIC* an exhibition of work by Indiana-based artist Robert Horvath.

Stephen Ormandy is a multi-disciplinary artist who lives and works in Sydney, Australia. Ormandy graduated from The City Art Institute (now known as UNSW Art and Design) in Sydney in 1985. During his time at the college, he met Louise Olsen and in their final year of study they established the design company Dinosaur Designs. Dinosaur Designs has grown to be one of Australia's leading design brands specializing in resin and metallic jewelry and homewares.

Alongside his role as Creative Director of Dinosaur Designs, Stephen Ormandy has maintained and continued his independent artistic practice. Ormandy is inspired by the natural world and informed by a strong design aesthetic based on color and form. There is a discernible dialogue between his large-scale oil paintings and sculptural work, with line, shape and surface each informing the other.

Ormandy was a finalist in the Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in 2015. In 2016 Stephen Ormandy and Louise Olsen published *The Art of Dinosaur Design* which coincided with a traveling exhibition that has shown at Bega Regional Gallery and Hazelhurst Art Gallery.

His work is held in public collections across Australia including Artbank, The Sir William Dobell Art Foundation, The Powerhouse Museum, The National Gallery of Victoria, Newcastle Art Gallery, and The Art Gallery of Western Australia.

Erin Cluley Gallery is a contemporary art gallery representing emerging, mid-career, and established 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.

In 2014, Erin Cluley Gallery ignited a creative movement in West Dallas acting as a hub for visual arts and community engagement. After nearly five years on Fabrication Street, the gallery has moved its operation to Riverbend – a development in Dallas' Design District celebrating the intersection between culture and commerce.

In April 2021, Cluley opened Cluley Projects – a satellite location in West Dallas acting as an incubator space focusing on regional artists and providing a platform for discovery and mentorship.

For all press inquiries contact
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