

# t r a n s f o r m e r

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Jameson Magrogan  
*Oil, Then Acrylic*  
December 13, 2014 – January 31, 2015

Opening Reception:  
Saturday, December 13, 6-8pm

Artist Talk:  
Saturday, January 24, 3pm



Continuing our commitment to highlight the work of exceptional DC area emerging artists, Transformer's *12th Annual DC Area Solo Exhibition* presents the work of **Jameson Magrogan** in his first solo exhibition. Featuring a new body of work that examines the rationality of painting, *Oil, Then Acrylic* investigates the artist's relationship to the mythos of art history through painting, drawing, sculpture, and print. Employing materials both fine and ephemeral, Magrogan considers the perceived hierarchy of mediums.

The quality of a painting is often judged by its scale and material. "In this show, a smaller painting may be stretched linen while a larger is stretched drop cloth canvas; one may have thick stretcher bars while another is stretched on thin wood, leaving its surface close to the wall," explains Magrogan. These variants in scale, structure, and medium are points of consideration for the artist, whose paintings reflect his hyper-fixation with properly understanding the medium and its limitations, or lack of limitations. "The painting begins with its entire structure, stretcher and all. It is a three-dimensional object, not just a surface. I'm interested in the point where a painting becomes a sculpture, recognizing it as something that is built." With this in mind, Magrogan's work tests these preconceived confines of traditional painting, activating its shape and edges to achieve depth and perspective, and sometimes exceeding them.

Magrogan's fascination with considering the rationality and boundaries of painting inspired the title of this exhibition, *Oil, Then Acrylic*, which addresses the perceived hierarchy of oil over acrylic as a medium employed by the standards of art history. Magrogan explains, "My work explores where these hierarchies come from, and our relationship with the medium. Why celebrate oil over acrylic? I find humor in our blind obsession with best, second best (oil, then acrylic), small, medium, and large. This is our drive to categorize and subjugate, and this body of work tests these hierarchies."

Magrogan is a 2014 graduate of the Maryland Institute for Contemporary Art, where he received his BFA in Painting.

Image: Jameson Magrogan, *My Buddy, Mr. Goldenstein*, 2014

**EXHIBITION HOURS: Wednesday-Saturday, 12-6pm and by appointment. Transformer will be closed December 23, 2014 - January 6, 2015.**

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t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions. t r a n s f o r m e r ' s 2014/15 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/ NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Bernstein Family Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The S&R Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.

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