

# CUSTOT GALLERY

DUBAI

PRESS RELEASE

## IAN DAVENPORT CASCADE

5 November 2017 – 6 January 2018



*Mirrored Place*, 2017, acrylic on stainless steel mounted on aluminium panel (with floor piece), 300 x 400 cm

Custot Gallery is delighted to present Ian Davenport's first solo exhibition in Dubai, 'Cascade'. The exhibition will present sixteen new works, which develop Davenport's rigorous investigation into colour relationships and the painting process.

Davenport's meticulous painting technique plays with timing and chance, allowing carefully selected chromatic palettes to flow down to the bottom of the painting. This emphasises the materiality and liquidity of his work.

In two new large-scale works, 'Mirrored Place' (2017) and 'Cobalt Blue Water' (2017), Davenport has taken this technique one step further, by co-opting the intricate puddled section at the bottom of the painting, as a sculptural element. This takes its lead from Davenport's monumental, fourteen-meter-long painting, 'Giardini Colourfall' at the 57th Venice Biennale, 2017.

Davenport has an intuitive approach to colour, appropriating and borrowing from various sources. For a number of years, he has referenced historical artworks, such as Old Masters paintings, as a way to orchestrate more complex colour fields and sequences. The idea of borrowing and reclaiming is intrinsic to Davenport's work and is expanded upon in the accompanying exhibition text, 'Looking for a Steal', written by curator and art historian, Dr. Jo Melvin.

The exhibition will also include some of the artist's earlier 'Circle Paintings' and more recent works on paper, whose energetic play with colour and application, counteract the metered and controlled pace of the poured lines.

Since graduating from Goldsmiths' College of Art in 1988, Ian Davenport (b. 1966, Sidcup, Kent) Davenport has been the subject of numerous exhibitions worldwide, with solo museum shows at Ikon Gallery, Birmingham and Tate Liverpool. He is the subject of a forthcoming major exhibition at Dallas Contemporary in September 2018. His work is held in important museum collections throughout the world, including Tate, London; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Museum of Wales, Cardiff; Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal, Germany; and Dallas Museum of Art, Texas.

The exhibition will open in the presence of the artist on 5 November, 6 – 9pm.

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