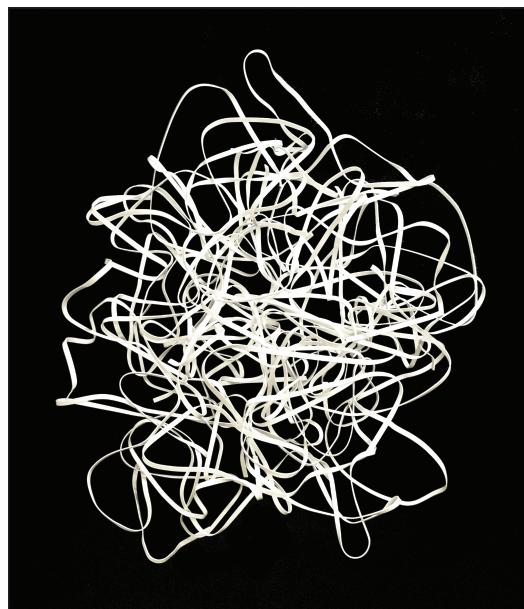




R E D S E A G A L L E R Y

For immediate release

CONVERGENT EVOLUTION  
A DOUBLE HEADER EXHIBITION BY USA BASED ARTISTS JAMES AUSTIN MURRAY AND MATT DEVINE  
9 November – 9 December 2018



1984 #1 by Matt Devine (2018), Steel with white powder coat, H54cm x W45cm x D16cm

Singapore - REDSEA Gallery presents two concurrent solo exhibitions by American artists, James Austin Murray and Matt Devine. Although Murray, who primarily works in oil paint, and Devine, a self-taught metal sculptor, carry out distinct artistic practices, they are united in the precise control each wields over their medium. The presentation marks the first major exhibition in Asia for both artists.

JAMES AUSTIN MURRAY



All the stars in the sky, Oil on canvas, 60"x 60", 152 x 152cm

New York-based James Austin Murray might at first emanate an impression of how limited his creations are to

Ivory black paint and a canvas. This forced constraint on the other hand has allowed him to push the boundaries of his chosen materials. One of which is the idea of using light in his work. Considering light to be one of the materials he works with, Murray favours how the concept of light, both in a room and naturally, is reflected on black oil paint, highlighting his gestural and precise motions as a focus. To him, light's natural rhythm is a starting point for a piece of work.

Constantly, Murray explores his liberal expression in his artwork. With a set of self-imposed rules that he constricts himself to, Murray broke away from the confines of right-angled canvases by customising canvases that have a broader dialogue with the shape of the canvas and the paint on its surface.

#### MATT DEVINE

Metal sculptor and self-taught artist Matt Devine is known for his non-representational sculptures. Similar to Murray, Devine pushes boundaries with the medium he works with. He masterfully crafts metals into minimalistic forms that tend to make the heavy, hard, manmade material looks as light, soft and organic as possible. Devine's artwork is seamless and evokes weightlessness, yet is made of heavy metals such as steel, aluminum, and bronze. Repetition of form, placement, and minimalistic patterns create a sense of balance and harmony in his work.

Devine's works bear paradoxical notions of contrasts. Nature and industry, light and shadow, chaos and order are themes found throughout Devine's body of work. These contrasts, plus the relationships of patterns and boundaries, put forward captivating combinations of very different but thought-provoking themes.

**The double solo exhibition, 'Convergent Evolution' by James Murray and Matt Devine will open to the public 10 November and will be on show until 9 December 2018. An invitation only VIP showing with the artist in attendance is scheduled for 9 November. All works are available on sale and selected pieces can be viewed online at: [www.redseagallery.com](http://www.redseagallery.com)**

#### **EXHIBITION DATES**

9 November through 9 December 2018

11am - 8pm daily

#### **ABOUT JAMES AUSTIN MURRAY**

Born 1969 in New York, USA, Murray's works evolved since the inception of his career. His current work is both about the paint and the light that reflects on and in it. Despite the simplicity of the materials involved, the surface effects created by the light are anything but. Encountering one of his large black canvases is an almost otherworldly experience. Depending on where you stand, the paintings look like a forbidding landscape you could walk right into - an experience that is both unnerving and deeply seductive.

Established galleries in New York City and California, USA represents Murray.

#### **ABOUT MATT DEVINE**

Matt Devine is a self-taught sculptor working with steel, stainless steel, aluminum and bronze. Born and raised in New England, USA, Devine moved to California in 1995, where he learned to weld and fabricate metal while working alongside his father.

The contrasts of nature and industry, light and shadow, chaos and order are themes found throughout Devine's body of work. Pared-down organic shapes are formed out of sheet and solid materials and welded together in harmonious accord, often allowing the metal to appear as light as paper. These contrasts, plus the relationships of patterns and boundaries, address Devine's desire to contain chaos and push out the discord of an information-saturated culture.

Since becoming a full-time artist in 2004, Devine has developed his signature sculpture style while building his fine art career. Devine's sculpture is on display at highly-regarded fine art galleries, art fairs and notable auction houses across North America, Asia and Europe. His works can be found in myriad private, corporate and public art collections on five continents.

Devine currently works and resides with his wife and daughter in the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### **ABOUT REDSEA GALLERY**

Founded in 2001, REDSEA Gallery is one of Singapore's leading contemporary art galleries. It has firmly established its reputation, both locally and in the wider Asian art market, as an institution that represents a highly exclusive and international selection of well-respected and emerging artists.

REDSEA Gallery occupies a truly unique 600 square metre space at the heart of Dempsey Hill, once the colonial army barracks and now one of Singapore's architectural and cultural heritage sites. The gallery is used primarily for exhibitions but also as a venue for private and corporate events, offering a range of private client and corporate consultancy services, art rentals and art history talks.

For additional information and images, please contact:

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