

DIANE ROSENSTEIN

For Immediate Release:

DIANE ROSENSTEIN

831 North Highland Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90038
T. +1.323.397.9225
www.dianeroseinstein.com

Roland Reiss: 1968

September 12 – October 10, 2015

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Opening: Saturday, September 12th, 2015, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

DIANE ROSENSTEIN is pleased to announce *Roland Reiss: 1968*, a solo exhibition of early-career fiberglass and resin paintings by the Los Angeles-based artist. *Roland Reiss: 1968* opens in the Project Room on Saturday, September 12th, with a reception for the artist from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. This is Reiss' second exhibition with the gallery.

Having taken his MA at UCLA in 1957, Roland Reiss moved to Boulder and joined the art faculty of the University of Colorado. In his studio practice, by the late 1950s, Reiss sought to replace the gestural excesses of 'action painting,' in an effort to make his work more dimensional and sculptural. As new materials became available to artists in the early 60s, Reiss began work with acrylic paints and plastics (notably Plexiglas), foams, and resin. He created the work exhibited here – a breakthrough series of fiberglass and resin "paintings" in 1968. With titles like *Red Slide* and *Bent Field*, the molded resin surfaces are textured in positive or negative relief hexagons that Reiss sprayed in bright colors like red, green, and orange. The result is an ever-shifting and vibrational color field.

These pivotal works are among the first sculptural resin paintings: produced by Roland Reiss in Colorado, in synchronicity with both the Light and Space and Finish Fetish movements in Southern California. Despite the optical dynamism, there is a minimalism to the work that relates to the monochromatic oil and beeswax panel paintings produced by Brice Marden in New York at the same time. In essence, by 1968, the painting became a perceptual object.

Roland Reiss: 1968 will be on view until October 10th, 2015.

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Roland Reiss (USA, b. 1929) is widely recognized for his Miniatures, but he is first and foremost a painter. He was included in exhibitions in the early 1960s at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and the San Francisco Museum of Art; the 1975 *Whitney Biennial* and *dOCUMENTA 7* (1982). LACMA included Mr. Reiss in *Avant Garde in the '80s* (1987). He has received survey exhibitions from the Begovich Gallery at Cal State Fullerton (2014), Pasadena Museum of Contemporary Art (2011-2012) and the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (1991). Reiss has continuously received solo and group exhibitions throughout his career, at institutions including the Neuberger Museum of Art at SUNY (Purchase, NY), Orange County Museum of Art (Newport Beach, CA), Armory Center for the Arts (Pasadena, CA), San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA), The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (Washington, D.C.), and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Kansas City, MO). His paintings and sculpture are included in the permanent collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles, CA; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), and the Orange County Museum of Art (OCMA), among others. Roland Reiss was the Chairman of the Art Department at Claremont Graduate University from 1971- 2000; he has also received four National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artist Fellowships for both painting and sculpture. Roland Reiss lives and works in Los Angeles.