

Jason Saager paints fantastical landscapes, elevations that climb and collapse onto themselves. In his first solo exhibition with Ross + Kramer, entitled *Ecstatic Outdoors*, Saager will present new works that elaborate on this subject.

Saager makes his intricate and complex works with a process that is at first quite quick and then slow. He begins with the demanding process of monotype printing, which takes approximately a continuous 72 hours. This technique necessitates that the artist makes the bulk of the image in one shot, keeping the plate wet in order to successfully transfer it onto its destined sheet of paper. Saager fills in these monotypes with evermore intricate details with a brush. A slow and introspective response to the more fast-paced and anarchic printing process of monotype. Subtle blue skies with scalloped edged clouds about dreamy rolling hills with vertiginous perspectives and peaked mountain crests.

Saager's constructed worlds evoke both nature as depicted in early Renaissance painting and the idealistic unlimited space associated with Chinese landscape painting, but in an off-kilter imaginary where immeasurable distances and impossible upheavals occur. At once earthly and otherworldly, his works exemplify a spatial and temporal synthesis--both in the process of their making and in the worlds that they depict. Stylistic quotations from disparate sources; sky, land, and sky again, all tumble into one another in a disorienting calm. While paintings like *Flying Hill Country* and *Garden of Alien Breakaway* evoke the Italian countryside, with characteristic cypress trees and spindly umbrella pines, paintings like *Pyramids of Air* and *Secret Mountains* feature more fantastical views of clouds studded with bits of land.

Jason Saager (b. 1982 Mesa, AZ) received his BFA from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2006, and his MFA from Hunter College in New York in 2012. He has been the subject of solo and included in group exhibitions at Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA; Washington Project for the Arts, Washington DC (curated by Ellen Altfest); St. Paul the Apostle, New York, NY (curated by Michael Berube and Keena Gonzales); Life on Mars Gallery, Brooklyn, New York; SPRING/BREAK Art Show, New York, New York. He has had artist residencies at The International School of Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture, Montecastello di Vibio, Italy, Pioneer Works in Brooklyn, New York and Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, Brooklyn, New York.. He was the recipient of the Richard Marnin Kaye Award while attending Hunter College.

Ecstatic Outdoors takes place in the gallery's East Hampton location. Ross+Kramer East Hampton is open to the public from Wednesday to Sunday, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM at 66 Newtown Lane in East Hampton, New York. For more information or to inquire about available works, please contact info@rkgallery.com or call +1 631 329 3100.