

**Fergus McCaffrey, St. Barth**  
**Inaugural Exhibition: Donald Judd & Richard Nonas**  
**November 29 – December 24, 2014**

Fergus McCaffrey is pleased to announce the inaugural exhibition at its new location on the Caribbean island of St. Barthélemy. The show features a juxtaposition of works by Donald Judd (1928-94) and Richard Nonas (b. 1936). As aesthetic theorists and practicing sculptors, Judd and Nonas have altered the trajectory of art history in reconsidering sculptural materials and the act of installation.

Though allied by the use of simple geometric forms often in sequences or series laid out on the floor or hung on the wall, and the use of common construction materials (for Judd - metal, wood, and Plexiglas; for Nonas - stone, metal, and wood), the two artists represent divergent sculptural practices. Judd is more assertive in shaping matter to his will where Nonas adopts a more considered means.

Judd's mechanical forms, such as his copper work *Untitled*, 1970, are mathematical and contemplative, with fine 'do not touch' finishes that reflect and transmit light. Works such as *Untitled, Lehni 85 - 032*, 1985 evoke constructivist origins, mixing together differently colored pre-made forms in long horizontal compositions. When installed, Judd's forms remain resolutely formal and unyielding to context.

Nonas' arrangements of his own hand-wrought, mechanically formed, and found elements respond to the specifics of each location and provoke awareness of history and culture. The artist has less interest in the traditional fetishized treatment of sculptural elements and considers his forms malleable and inter-changeable actors that articulate space and narrative. While Nonas' forms are resolutely formal, occasional resemblances to primitive domestic forms occur (such as ladders in *Untitled*, 2012, masks, as in *Untitled*, 1989, and seats), thus raising our awareness of Nonas' background in anthropology before turning to art making in the late 60s.

Born in 1936 in New York, Richard Nonas studied social anthropology and literature at Lafayette College and Columbia University and spent ten years doing anthropological fieldwork in northern Ontario, Canada's Yukon Territory, the Sonoran Desert, northern Mexico and southern Arizona. In 1967 Nonas returned to New York where he began work as a sculptor. Nonas has exhibited extensively and his works are in public collections around the world.

Donald Judd was born in Excelsior Springs, Missouri, in 1928. At Columbia University, New York, he studied philosophy and art history and began to produce his earliest paintings. Judd's work has been exhibited internationally since the 1960s and is included in numerous museum collections worldwide. Permanent installations of the artist's work exist at Judd Foundation spaces in New York City, at 101 Spring Street, and Marfa, Texas.

## **About Fergus McCaffrey**

Founded in 2006, Fergus McCaffrey is internationally recognized for its groundbreaking role in promoting the work of post-war Japanese artists, as well as a quality roster of select contemporary European and American artists. Fergus McCaffrey's rigorous, thoughtful approach is marked by a commitment to discovery, often presenting the work of artists previously unrepresented or misrepresented. Dublin-born founder Fergus McCaffrey has been instrumental in introducing post-war Japanese art to a Western market, including Natsuyuki Nakanishi, and Gutai artists Sadamasa Motonaga and Kazuo Shiraga. The gallery also exhibits the work of seminal Western artists, including Andy Warhol, Birgit Jürgenssen, William Scott, Richard Nonas, Gary Rough, Jack Early and Sigmar Polke.

Fergus McCaffrey St. Barth is a unique new setting for the gallery to arrange innovative historical exhibitions and show new work by its expanding global roster of artists. Located in the center of the historic harbor town of Gustavia, the gallery is approximately 600 square feet. The gallery's third location opens in Tokyo in 2015.

### **For press inquiries, please contact:**

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