

# PRACTISE

Director **Zachary Buchner**  
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## David Deutsch + Alex Kwartler

### *Slow and Fast*

9/01/18–10/07/18

**Closing Event - Saturday 10/06/18 3- 6pm**

PRACTISE is thrilled to present *Slow and Fast*, an exhibition of new work by David Deutsch and Alex Kwartler. This exhibition brings together two generations of New York painters, whose interest in the marriage of image and process collide in conflicting and overlapping ways.

The title of the exhibition alludes to a shared awareness or interest in speed, specifically as it pertains to image, gesture and perception. It also speaks to a kind of phenomenological shift that occurs in all the works on display in *Slow and Fast*.

Both Deutsch and Kwartler straddle representation and abstraction - they employ mark, image and surface as a way of specifically guiding the viewer in the act of looking. This attention to the speed of an image - though different for each artist - aids in the way one understands the mood, humor and meaning of each work.

In Deutsch's painting, we are forced to undo a dense tangle of brushstrokes - at first a familiar pile of lines, which appear rooted in the histories of gestural abstraction, quickly reveal a chimney, house, tractor and a lone figure emerging from the muddy field. In *Untitled, 2017* the viewer is met by a complex feeling of isolation - an uneasy solitude played out with anxious and uncomfortable ease.

Kwartler's paintings propose a different dialectic of speed and meaning. The images found in *Snowflake (divided) 1 + 2* are buried in the surfaces. Pitted and scraped, they reveal a portrait of a melting snowflake. At once a sly play on the now common term used by the Far-Right to describe Liberals - here the snowflake becomes both a metaphor for the transient nature of contemporary images and an icon for the kind of dissolving discourse surrounding our current political moment.

Whether its the quick uneasy reveal present in Deutsch's speed or the back and forth slowness of images and material found in Kwartler's paintings, one is reminded that images now are meant to be immediately consumable. Both painters, fully aware of this contemporary condition, challenge that ease in *Slow and Fast*.

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Born in 1943 in Los Angeles, David Deutsch has lived and worked in New York since 1970. He has had numerous solo exhibitions worldwide, most recently at Kerry Schuss, New York, (2016) and Feature Inc., New York, (2013). His work is included in many public collections including The Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, The Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York among many others. This fall a comprehensive monograph entitled *David Deutsch: Works 1967- 2017* will be released by Radius Press.

Born in 1979, Alex Kwartler lives and works in New York. He received his BFA from Cooper Union (2002) and his MFA from Rutgers University (2015). Alex has recently mounted solo exhibitions at Magenta Plains, New York (2018, 2016) and Nathalie Karg Gallery, New York (2014). His work has been exhibited at P.S 1 Contemporary Art Center, White Columns, Bortolami Gallery, Casey Kaplan and Mitchell-Innes and Nash among many others. Kwartler was the artist-in-residence at the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, TX. in 2017. His paintings were featured in "Painting Abstraction" edited by Bob Nickas and published by Phaidon Press.

PRACTISE is an independently run artist-centered exhibition space located in Oak Park, IL directed by artist and educator Zachary Buchner. Acknowledging a long tradition of alternative spaces in Oak Park and Chicago, our goal is to continue this lineage of community and discourse.

**Hours: Sundays 1–4PM or by appointment**

**Contact: [info@practise.info](mailto:info@practise.info) for all inquiries**