

# JASON MARTIN *Serendipitia*

10 October - 11 November 2013 / Reception for the artist: Thursday, 10 October, 6-8pm



*Thassos*, 2013, pure pigment (Midnight blue) on aluminum  
23 1/2 x 73 1/2 x 6 3/4 in. (60 x 187 x 17 cm)

**Venice, CA** – L.A. Louver is pleased to announce a solo exhibition of new paintings (all created in 2013) by British artist Jason Martin.

The title of the exhibition *Serendipitia*, suggests the phenomena of circumstance, and the endless possibilities from which an outcome can evolve. It is this approach to discovery and chance that permeates the 6 new works on view in L.A. Louver's second floor gallery.

Renowned for his lyrically fluid and sumptuously colored monochromatic paintings, Martin's new body of work continues in this realm, but with an increasing awareness of materiality, contrasting with a heightened sense of spontaneity. Martin states, "The pictorial path I arrive at comes through an uprooting of familiar approaches, adapting new ways so as to discover if not challenge, what otherwise would be hidden and unseen... Serendipity explored as a world to discover without consciously searching for it."

Challenging the delineation between sculpture and painting, Martin defies the limitations of the 2-dimensional picture plane. To create these works, Martin manipulates paste medium over aluminum panels, completely obscuring their inner framework. He then applies multiple layers of pure pigment – its application accentuating the peaks and depressions of the textured surface with a dense matte finish. A diverse array of vivid hues is reflected, from the intense black of *Goethe*, to the stark white of *Kasablanka*, whose pigmentation also includes reflective glass flakes, a first for the artist. Other colors include: midnight blue, viridian, magenta and silver leaf. The works range in size from 26 x 19 in. (66 x 48.3 cm) to over 6 x 5 ft. (1.8 x 1.5 m). All are vertical in orientation except for *Thassos* (its title referring to the Greek island), which stretches across a horizontal plane, forming an elongated panorama of brilliant blue that commands the viewer's gaze.

Born in Jersey, Channel Islands, Jason Martin attended the Chelsea School of Art (1989-1990) and Goldsmiths' College, London (1990-1993). Martin achieved early recognition for his work, with gallery exhibitions in London, Nagoya, Japan, and Nordhorn, Germany in the mid-1990s. He was catapulted onto an international stage with his inclusion in *Sensation: Young British Artists from the Saatchi Collection*, Royal Academy, London (traveled to Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin and Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York) 1997-2000. This was followed by the exhibitions *Post-Hypnotic*, University Galleries, New York (traveled to the MAC, Dallas; The Atlanta College Art Gallery; The Chicago Cultural Center; Tweed Museum, University of Minnesota; Naples Museum of Art, Florida and Massachusetts College of Art) in 1999, and *Monochrome*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid in 2004. Other exhibitions include *Nomad*, Centro de Arte Contemporaneo, Málaga, Spain; and *Rock*, Centro Britânico Brasileiro, Sao Paulo, Brazil, both in 2008; and *Vigil*, The Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, Italy in 2009.

Martin's work is found in public and private collections, including the Institute Valencia Art Modern (IVAM), Valencia, Museo de Bellas Artes de Asturias, Oviedo and Centro de Arte Contemporaneo, Málaga, Spain; Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary, Vienna and Sammlung Essl, Klosterneuburg, Austria; Museum of Modern Art, La Spezia, Italy; Birmingham Museum, UK; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo; Denver Art Museum; and Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. Martin lives and works in London, UK and Portugal.

Concurrently on view at L.A. Louver 10 October – 9 November 2013:

First floor galleries

**R.B. KITAJ:** Paintings and drawings from 1992-2007

Skyroom

**ALISON SAAR:** Two recent bronze sculptures

For more information and visuals, please contact Christina Carlos, L.A. Louver, 45 North Venice Boulevard, Venice, CA, USA, [www.lalouver.com](http://www.lalouver.com)  
tel: 310-822-4955; fax: 310-821-7529; e-mail: [Christina@lalouver.com](mailto:Christina@lalouver.com) Gallery Hours: Tues - Sat, 10 - 6 PM; Validated parking available

FOLLOW US ON:  [BLOG.LALOUVER.COM](http://BLOG.LALOUVER.COM)     /LALOUVER