Zach Harris’ paintings allude to an exhaustive list of art historical references including decorative fields of geometric patterns from 13th century paintings, Op Art’s illusion of movement through color combinations and patterns that provoke the eye, the detail and unity of Tibetan thangka scrolls, surreal landscapes of psychedelia, and architectural display techniques found in museums and places of worship. To assume the artist applies these references deliberately would be misleading. Rather, the works emerge from Harris’ unique visual synthesis; hence the difficulty to place them in any specific time, region, or art movement.

Harris’ idiosyncratic flare is balanced by a recurring structure throughout his oeuvre. Each painting consists of a hand-carved frame housing a central panel. This attention to the periphery both creates a matrix for the painting while curving the focus of the viewer. Within the environment of the frame, the smaller acrylic renderings suggest a wormhole to deep landscapes with plunging mountains, sinking crevasses, and minuscule details that expound the vastness of the scene. Over a process lasting years, the artist refines and complicates his aggressive color palates, working to compress, unify, and create bewildering depths. Harris’ fierce materiality engenders prolonged spectatorship welcoming an optic communion with the work.

About the Artist

Zach Harris has participated in exhibitions with Feuer/Mesler Gallery, New York; David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles; The Jewish Museum, New York; Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara; and the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles. Harris earned his MFA from Hunter College and a BA from Bard College. Harris lives and works in Los Angeles.
Organized by Marie Heilich

Lenders
The collection of Barry Malin, and Zach Feuer Gallery, New York

Image credits in order of appearance

Zach Harris, *Painting Table / Piano Keys*, 2013-2014
Water based paint, spray paint, wood
49 3/4 x 37 1/2 x 1 inches
Courtesy the Artist and Zach Feuer Gallery

Zach Harris, *Hand Held The Shining Chroma Zones*, 2012-2013
Water based paint, wood
30 1/4 x 18 3/4 x 1 3/4 inches
Courtesy the Artist and Zach Feuer Gallery

Zach Harris, *First Person Parthenon*, 2011-2012
Water-based paint, wood 32 x 25 inches
Courtesy the Artist and Zach Feuer Gallery

Zach Harris, *Siren Song*, 2010
Water-based paint, wood, 35 x 27 inches
Courtesy the Artist and Zach Feuer Gallery

White Flag Projects

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