

Rodney Durso | Studio News

VOL. 6 | MAY 2016

- [Events! Art Expo 2016](#)
 - [Upcoming | The American Academy in Rome](#)
 - [Events! Save the Date! HLOS June 2016](#)
 - [Launched! Artfinder](#)
 - [Community Spotlight! Ian Mack](#)
-

Events! Art Expo 2016



Installation View, 2016

Photo Transfer & Mixed Media Collage on Paper, 11x14"

Price: \$750.00-\$900.00

On April 14th-17th, Rodney was pleased to be included in this year's **Art Expo** event at Pier 94. He displayed four pieces from his *#Disfashionate* series, including two brand new works, with the Art Nation and Solco Gallery booths. The Art Expo, together with two other smaller art fairs, took over the entirety of Pier 94, showcasing 400+ innovative artists. The event drew a large audience, with visitors from all over the world in attendance. Overall, it was a wonderful experience and provided a chance to meet with some talented artists and see their artworks.

The Art Expo is an annual event that has occurred for 38 years and counting, and has been "changing the way people buy and sell art, bringing the biggest publishers, galleries and collectors face to face with hundreds of established and emerging artists."

We hope to see you at Art Expo 2017!

Art Expo I Pier 94
711 12th Ave
New York, NY 10019
<http://www.artexponewyork.com>
Instagram: @artexponewyork

Upcoming | The American Academy in Rome



View of the studio and living
quarters at the American Academy in Rome.

Rodney is excited to announce that he was accepted to the prestigious **Visiting Artist and Scholar program at the American Academy in Rome**! He will be spending two weeks this month at their studio facilities in Rome, where he will continue to build on his current body of work, while being inspired by the beautiful city of Rome and a community of international artists.

The mission of the American Academy in Rome "is to support innovative artists, writers and scholars living and working together in a dynamic international community. The community includes Fellows, Residents, Visiting Artists and Scholars, and come June, members of academic Summer Programs. The Academy presents a chance

for American artists and scholars to spend significant time interacting and working in one of the oldest, most cosmopolitan cities in the world."

American Academy in Rome | Rome, IT

<http://www.aarome.org/>

Instagram: @AmAcademyRome | Facebook: aarome

Events! Save the Date! HLOS June 2016



Please join us on **Saturday, June 11th and Sunday, June 12th from 12pm-6pm** for the Summer edition of the West Chelsea High Line Open Studios. Rodney's doors will be open to the public, so please stop by and say hello, grab a drink or snack and catch up on his recent projects.

Many other studios will be open to visit during this early Summer weekend, so make sure to meander and stroll, and take a look at their work. It's a great way to spend an afternoon. And afterwards you can relax on the High Line, which is only a few steps away from the West Chelsea Arts Building.

More information will be available at the end of May, when we will also send out an event reminder. Please let us know if you have additional questions.

We look forward to seeing you!

526 W. 26th Street (btw 10th-11th Ave)
Studio 503
New York, NY 10001
646-661-5415

www.rodneydurso.com

www.highlineopenstudios.org



Launched! Artfinder

The Artfinder logo, consisting of the word "ART" in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by a small red dot, and then the word "FINDER" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is centered within a black rectangular background.

ART • FINDER

Beginning this May, Rodney will be featured on Artfinder, a global marketplace for affordable authentic art. Artfinder connects "independent artists and galleries with art loves who value craft, quality and originality".

"Launched in 2013 and based in London, the Artfinder team is made up of passionate art and technology lovers, committed to making it easier for artists to reach a global audience and for art lovers to own affordable art."

Follow the link below to check out Rodney's profile and artworks for sale, and take a look around at everything Artfinder has to offer!

artfinder.com/rodneydurso

Artfinder

<https://www.artfinder.com/>

Facebook: artfinderfb | Instagram: artfinder_com

Community Spotlightl Ian Mack



Portrait of Ian Mack in his studio

Ian Mack is an artist from London who has been working in Chelsea for nearly 12 years, with an art career spanning 50 years. Mack lived in several cities throughout his artistic career, all with inspiring landscapes that influenced his painting process over the years.

As a young artist, Mack studied and subsequently lived in Mexico, where he perfected the craft and technique of painting. Mack then moved to Colorado to pursue a fine art career, eventually moving upstate in the mid nineties. It was this change in landscape that sparked a drastic shift in Mack's work, from more representational painting to fully non-representational. Mack's studio today is filled with vivid abstracted artworks, varying all the way from pocket sized to practically covering the wall.

Mack started out as a sculptor, creating abstract works that deal with solid mass, counter space, shape, and the graphic design possibilities of three dimensional objects. He told me that this beginning to his art career still resonates with his current practice, and that it has all come full circle in his paintings today in terms of form, composition, and shape.



It was in Mexico where Mack discovered color.

“Mexico just opened my eyes to color. So I decided that color is going to be my life. And I’ve been really just pursuing that ever since, just trying to find ways to make color meaningful, and powerful and intense. But not bright. I’m not interested in bright color. I’m interested in intensity of color. And color that you can’t really use as background. You’re confronted with it. Like in my pink painting or orange painting, there’s no escape...that’s part of my mission.”

Mack said that he is also intrigued by design, which is apparent by the graphic nature of his work. He doesn’t really design his paintings, but design is always in the back of his mind.

His new artworks are based on images or compositions he’s seen in the landscape. In order to recreate these moments back in the studio, Mack creates miniature sketches of the compositions that catch his eye while out in the field.



"There's no great distance involved - it's quite contained."

“They always start with tiny little miniature drawings. And I have hundreds and hundreds of these little drawings. The good ones always end up as paintings.”

He said he is usually sitting somewhere outside, in a rural environment, or nowadays the city, when he creates these little diagrams of whatever he is observing.

In his earlier work, he was interested representational paintings of landscapes, portraits, and still lifes, which also involved the flattening of space and the removal of perspective. Mack said he always felt that he knew he was not going to continue painting that way.

“I got to the point where I really understood what I was doing with the paint. I knew what the end result was going to be, so I worked toward an end result. But I knew at some point I wanted to throw all that out, because if I know what I’m doing, I’m not so interested.”



Mack and his old visa for Mexico
become
painting,



Residue from the larger paintings
smaller works of art. Related to
they can be hung on the wall.

Mack described to me the turning point in his career where this dramatic shift in style began, when he moved to the landscape of upstate New York. “The contrast between the line and the snow was very striking and it enabled you to really see something clearly, and you could focus on it. But you have to focus, because you can only really focus on a small amount of information, and actually read it in detail. That’s really my whole shtick. What I’m really interested in, is the bit that I can really study in detail.”



Part of Mack's process is not only about abstracting a found object or place, but being inspired by it, and letting it tell a new story, as in this piece titled "The Military Landscape," in which the form is reminiscent of a military vehicle.

Creativity also runs in Mack's family, and some members of his family were actually illusionists! One of his relatives had even invented a trapdoor for their show that was such a good illusion, it was very difficult for anyone to find it on the stage.

I find this indiscernible trapdoor to be an important connection back to Mack's painting practice. Because like an illusionist, Mack, too, is able to hone in and focus on the invisible things – the things in our environment that most of us cannot see at all.

"It's all about found design, found composition."

Ian Mack | Chelsea
526 W. 26th Street, #723
New York, NY 10001

<https://www.ianmackstudios.com/>



[Website](https://www.ianmackstudios.com/)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Instagram](#)



[LinkedIn](#)



[Email](#)

Copyright © 2016 , All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)