

## THOMAS DANE GALLERY

Arturo Herrera  
*Faculty Band*

Private view: 17 September 6 – 8pm  
Exhibition dates: 18 September - 7 November, 2015

*“Modernism’s boundless optimism and idealism created exciting visual realities. Some of these propositions failed ... but their achievements are still resonant and influential ... The key is to have a critical dialogue with this legacy.” – A. Herrera*

Thomas Dane Gallery is pleased to present ‘Faculty Band’, an exhibition of new works by Arturo Herrera. For his third solo exhibition in London, the artist has conceived a painting show as a complete environment. The installation will feature mixed media paintings hung on custom made wallpaper, printed from his own photographs of wall paintings found in buildings in Berlin, where he lives and works.

For the past fifteen years, Herrera has developed a multi-layered body of work - collages, painted wood sculptures, paper cut-outs, felt pieces and wall paintings – that blends an excitingly broad array of references and methods, from modernist strategies of fragmentation, re-composition and repetition, to the highs and lows of popular and elite Western culture, and to the kinetic art / public art ventures of his native Venezuela in the Fifties and Sixties.

Until 2012, and culminating with the completion of his concurrent ‘Series’ exhibitions in Chicago, New York and London, Herrera’s explorations in collage utilised found and painted paper fragments from popular and other culture artefacts, rendered almost illegible and compressed into flat, multicoloured compositions.

Now, with ‘Faculty Band’, he presents works that are radically novel, both in technique and scale, and the closest to ‘making’ a painting the artist has ever been. Here, Herrera makes his paintings literally *into* paintings: by emphasising their three-dimensionality and by revealing their constructive, accretive nature as well as by combining the traditional media associated with painting-making - linen, canvas - with everyday materials such as cloth bags, felt and commercial banners. This layering process brings together his own vocabulary with that of Georges Braque, Kurt Schwitters, Daniel Spoerri and David Hammons, and in a real ‘tour-de-force’, they simultaneously reveal the secrets and entrails of their own making, as well as accumulating layers, planes and ‘veils’ that render their ‘whole’/unified examination almost impossible.

These will be ‘punctuated’ by more intimate objects: small paintings made from/onto flea-market books, from a whole variety of genres. The books, now with their pages sealed in by the spills, marks and drips of the painting process, are transformed into ready-made grounds for gestural abstraction. They resemble a painter’s study or variations on Paul Serusier’s ‘Talisman’, proposing a new kind of reading, both obliterated and open-ended, both as signifier and signified.

All the works in ‘Faculty Band’ move away from the psychological metaphor of ‘collage-cutting’ prevalent in the artist’s previous work. These object-based paintings point to the chaotic state of Abstraction today by using a determinedly fragmented language and acknowledging an even broader range of references.

Arturo Herrera’s work has been exhibited widely throughout the United States and Europe. His most recent solo shows were at The Tang Museum in Saratoga Springs (2015) and Sikkema Jenkins & Co. in New York (2014).

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 12pm-6pm or by appointment  
Admission: Free  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 79252505  
Nearest Tube: Green Park or Piccadilly Circus

## THOMAS DANE GALLERY

### Arturo Herrera

#### *Faculty Band*

18 September – 7 November, 2015

#### No.11 Duke Street

#### Corridor Gallery

##### *Wurst*, 2014

lithography, acrylic, felt, banner on canvas

74.5 x 39.5 x 3.4 cm.

29 3/8 x 15 1/2 x 1 3/8 in.

#### Front Room – Clockwise from door

##### *Berlin*, 2014

lithography, felt on acrylic, cloth bag on canvas

57.5 x 39.5 x 3.4 cm.

22 5/8 x 15 1/2 x 1 3/8 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

enamel, spray paint, acrylic, silkscreen, glue on book

26.5 x 21 x 2.5 cm.

10 3/8 x 8 1/4 x 1 in.

##### *Bundestag Red*, 2014

lithography, acrylic, felt, cloth bags on canvas

57.5 x 39.5 x 3.2 cm.

22 5/8 x 15 1/2 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

gouache, silkscreen, enamel, glue on book

18.5 x 12 x 0.8 cm.

7 1/4 x 4 3/4 x 1/4 in.

##### *Kaisers*, 2014

lithography, acrylic, felt, cloth bags on canvas

57.5 x 39.5 x 4.4 cm.

22 5/8 x 15 1/2 x 1 3/4 in.

##### *Autofelle*, 2014

lithography, digital print, painted wood, acrylic, linen on canvas

57.5 x 39.5 x 3.5 cm.

22 5/8 x 15 1/2 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

spray paint, acrylic, enamel, glue on book

21 x 13 x 3 cm.

8 1/4 x 5 1/8 x 1 1/8 in.

#### Back Room – Clockwise from door

##### *Untitled*, 2015

enamel, glue on book

19 x 14 x 2.5 cm.

7 1/2 x 5 1/2 x 1 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

acrylic, spray paint, enamel, silkscreen, gouache, glue on book

22 x 14 x 2.5 cm.

8 5/8 x 5 1/2 x 1 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

gouache, enamel, silkscreen, acrylic, glue on book

20.5 x 14 x 2.5 cm.

8 1/8 x 5 1/2 x 1 in.

##### *Bundestag Green*, 2014

lithography, felt, cloth bags on canvas

57.5 x 39.5 x 4.5 cm.

22 5/8 x 15 1/2 x 1 3/4 in.

##### *Untitled*, 2015

silkscreen, gouache, acrylic, enamel, glue on book

19.5 x 13 x 2.5 cm.

7 5/8 x 5 1/8 x 1 in.

##### *CO White*, 2014

lithography, acrylic, felt, banner on canvas

75 x 63 x 5.5 cm.

29 1/2 x 24 3/4 x 2 1/8 in.

##### *Big Bag Small Space*, 2014

acrylic, painted book, cloth bag, banner on canvas

113 x 39.5 x 2.3 cm.

44 1/2 x 15 1/2 x 7/8 in.