

TRIPOLI GALLERY

July 13, 2013

Press Release

Tripoli Gallery
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Hours: Mon - Sun 11am-6pm

Aakash Nihalani | Aaranged

July 13th – August 11th, 2013
Opening reception: Wednesday, July 17th, 6 - 8 pm

Southampton, New York - Tripoli Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition by New York-based artist Aakash Nihalani entitled *Aaranged*. Intrigued by the forms of urban architecture, Nihalani's outdoor interventions blur the lines between street art and op art by using tape to simultaneously highlight and alter the perspective of a given space. With a fluorescent palette, Nihalani's works pop against both the muted colors of the concrete jungle and the pastoral backdrop of the East End.



Aakash Nihalani (pictured applying tape)
Intro, 2013
Fluorescent paper tape on wall
85 x 85 inches

The current exhibition will feature new work in which Nihalani has focused on the arrangement of modules, placing him in the broader context of Modular Art, which allows for re-arranging and discovery of new compositions. The modules in this case are square-foot wood tiles, segmented by black, silk-screened lines into wildly geometric patterns, which are then systematically arranged, resulting in a new visual effect. Reminiscent of Frank Stella's iconic square paintings, whereby the juxtaposition of color and arrangement of line creates a pulsating movement, Nihalani's composition is less predictable. Repetition is spontaneously broken, as if the artist is playing with our sense of order and chaos—further enhanced by the ability for the work to re-compose itself as the modules are altered.

In describing his latest projects, Nihalani explained, "All my geometric work is based/derived off of a vocabulary of isometric forms represented/created from squares and parallelograms. I then take these shapes, or modules, and create different compositions, or variations. As Sol LeWitt said, 'For each work of art that becomes physical, there are many variations that do not.' The works in the show are about modularity, and the variations and compositions created by arrangement guided by rational and irrational rules."

Nihalani's site-specific tape installations are often created with little to no planning. Yet the finished product, with clean lines and mathematically precise placement of forms, quite often appears to adhere to a methodic, even theoretical, plan. While order presides, there is a strong element of humor. Nihalani's public tape work, also based on modules, playfully engages the viewer, allowing a passerby to enter the work and take part in the altered view.

For the Parrish Art Museum's annual Midsummer Party on July 13th, hosted by Tripoli Patterson and Kyle DeWoody, Nihalani has been commissioned to bring his tape art to the new Herzog & de Meuron-designed museum's exterior wall. The work will be viewable during the event, marking both Nihalani's introduction to the East End museum as well as the first time the gala will be held at the Parrish's new Water Mill location.

Aakash Nihalani was born in 1986 in Queens, New York and is currently based in Brooklyn. In 2008, he received a BFA from Steinhardt School, New York University. In 2012, he was awarded a residency at the Willem de Kooning studio in East Hampton. Nihalani's colorful geometric-based work has been exhibited internationally and featured in a number of publications including: *The New York Times*, *The Times of India*, *Vogue India* and *artinfo.com*.

For press inquiries or further information, please contact info@tripoligallery.com or call 631.377.3715